

Mr Peart pleases beef farmers but yields on sugar

rt, the Minister of Agricultural... the EEC on beef and sugar... yesterday after an all-night in Brussels.

through", but too late to ensure adequate supplies for 1976. On sugar, Mr Peart met solid opposition and had to settle for less than he had been seeking.

abinet must approve final deal

id Cross... all-night marathon... the EEC ministers... a today reached... on new... designed to help... of farmers and secure... of sugar for British...

Commonwealth, countries as high a price as he would have liked, to encourage them to send in to 1,400,000 tons of cane sugar to the British market.

a ton to as much as £130 a ton, depending on what the developing countries will accept. The new beef scheme, which was adopted provisionally by the ministers, was clearly more acceptable to the British.

Mr Peart had also sought a commitment from the Community that any raw cane sugar provided by the developing countries would go to British refineries to safeguard the jobs of British refinery workers.

Mr Peart had also sought a commitment from the Community that any raw cane sugar provided by the developing countries would go to British refineries to safeguard the jobs of British refinery workers.

The disadvantages of the scheme, however, are that, contrary to Mr Peart's original wishes, it does not give completely free price guarantees. Maximum levels for the payments will be set on a gradually diminishing sliding scale.

98 escape from first fatal Jumbo jet crash

Nairobi, Nov 20—Fifty-nine people died but 98 escaped today after a giant Boeing 747 of the West German airline Lufthansa crashed and burst into flames at Embakasi airport soon after takeoff for Johannesburg.



Firemen stand helpless as the remains of the Lufthansa Boeing 747 are enveloped in flames after the fuel tanks explode.

"It was a near miracle that no more people were on board the plane, which could carry 340, and that so many of those who were came out alive", a Lufthansa spokesman said.

The behaviour of the crew—and particularly of the American stewardess, Mr Tom Scott of Los Angeles—helped many passengers to flee in the few seconds before the giant jet was enveloped in flames.

Survivors said the airliner apparently lost power right after takeoff and began to lose height when it was about 100 feet off the ground. The tail section hit a 15-foot high road embankment about 600 yards past the end of the runway, they said.

The tail section broke off, the left wing tore into the ground and the Boeing spun round. Fire which started in the left wing engulfed the entire aircraft in about 30 seconds.

One who survived, Mr Terry Partridge, an engineer from Sheffield, said: "Everything fell in the walls, the roof and the floor. A stewardess pulled me out of my seat and showed me down an escape chute. Those girls were magnificent."

Radioactive 'went undetected'

Science Correspondent... inquiry is being held at... Windscale Cumbria... how traces of radioactive contaminated part... and car park in a... part of the site.

TUC tries to calm closed-shop storm

By Our Labour Staff... The TUC yesterday attempted to defuse the controversial issue of the closed shop by announcing that it would set up an independent tribunal to act as an appeal body for workers objecting to losing their jobs because they have been expelled from a union or refused trade union membership.

The Government's intention to reinstate the legal position of the closed shop has been highlighted recently by editors' fears that it may undermine press freedom if it is introduced into newspapers or broadcasting.

Mischief plot not crime, Law Lords say

The controversial growing trend towards the use of the conspiracy laws by prosecuting authorities received a setback yesterday with a House of Lords ruling that there was no such crime as a conspiracy to effect a public mischief.

Social contract call

After admitting that voluntary wage restraint is not proving fully effective, TUC leaders yesterday agreed to send unions a 2,000-word circular urging them to hold back on pay claims under the terms of the social contract.

US telephones giant faces anti-trust suit

From Frank Vogl... United States Economic Correspondent... Washington, Nov... The Department of Justice today filed one of the largest anti-trust suits with the Federal District Court, with the aim of breaking up the American Telephone and Telegraph Company (AT and T).

In an initial reaction to the suit, Mr John Dehuttis, chairman of A.T. and T. said he did not believe the company was in violation of anti-trust laws. He argued that the action would lead to fragmentation of the nation's telephone network.

n Fein plans guard of honour for Aber as councils ban march

ur Osmaz... Jones... than 1,300 police officers... Midlands constabulary supplement those in... and at Birmingham today for the funeral of Mr James McDade.

The police said last night that the area around Coventry mortuary where Mr McDade's body has remained since last Thursday's explosion will be cordoned off from the public and the press today. At 3.30 pm members of Mr McDade's family and close Sinn Fein colleagues will assemble there to receive it.

A Birmingham health authority spokesman said: "As we understand it, there will be a priest present who will say a few prayers when the close relatives assemble."

Wage rates still show inflationary trend

Inflating rapid inflation is the message of the latest wage rates and earnings figures published yesterday by the Department of Employment. Earnings rose by 1.9 per cent in September to bring the annual rate of increase implied by the most recent three monthly period for which figures are available to 32.3 per cent.

Colonel's libel case

Lieutenant-Colonel John Elliott Bronks, the London solicitor who is suing The Sunday People for libel damages, said in the High Court yesterday that although he liked spanking girls' bottoms he did not gain pleasure from inflicting pain.

700,000 tenants spared

The transfer of 700,000 controlled tenancies to fair-rent legislation will be stopped under an order made yesterday as part of the Government's promise to repeal the Conservative's Housing Finance Act.

Fit ballot scrutiny

The NUM yesterday set up a full inquiry into allegations of vote-rigging during last week's poll on productivity.

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Overseas News 6 Crossword 28 Obituary 16 25 Years Ago 16
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Arts 15 Engagements 16 Sale Room 16 Weather 2
Books 15 Features 13-14 Raffle 16 Wills 15
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KIDNEY MACHINES CANNOT CURE. Large advertisement with bold text and a graphic of a kidney machine.

KIDNEY RESEARCH. Advertisement for kidney research, including text about kidney machines and research funding.

HOME NEWS

Detainees might stand for Ulster constitutional convention to be elected early next year

By Michael Hatfield Political Staff The possibility of prisoners and detainees in Ulster standing for election to the proposed Northern Ireland constitutional convention is being examined by Mr Rees, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland.

He announced that yesterday after making a statement in the Commons on his discussion paper on the procedure for the convention. Although it would be difficult for a prisoner to take his place in the convention if he stood and was elected, Mr Rees said that if a detainee was elected that would weigh very much with him in reaching a decision.

He continued: "A heavy responsibility rests on the people of Northern Ireland and those they will elect to the constitutional convention, the responsibility of reaching agreement with each other. It is in this agreement which Northern Ireland needs, and Parliament will want to be satisfied that any proposals put forward are those likely to command the most widespread acceptance throughout the community in Northern Ireland."

Policeman killed by booby-trap bomb

From Robert Fisk Belfast Another policeman died in Northern Ireland yesterday when a booby-trap bomb blew up beneath a pavement on the Rathmore housing estate at Craigavon, co. Armagh. Constable Robin Ford, aged 30, died instantly. He was married, with a family.

Poison gas ship may be taken out to sea for cleaning

By Stewart Tisdler and Trevor Fishlock Plans are being drawn up to get rid of poisonous arsine gas in the Asiafreighter by taking the ship well out to sea and letting the gas escape into the atmosphere. The vessel is expected to be crewed by volunteers with protective clothing.

The machine, only recently perfected, was put in the ship's living quarters to give immediate warning should there be an escape of the gas leaking in number two hold, which has been sealed.

One of the toxic gas specialists on board the freighter said: "The detector is the size of a small suitcase, and monitors the atmosphere continuously. Meanwhile, we make routine tests in other parts of the ship by traditional sampling methods, and we are satisfied that the gas remains confined to the hold."

Professionals 'have more children'

By John Roper Medical Reporter Professional people are having fewer children, but manual and unskilled workers are having more, according to statistics published today by the Registrar General's office.

Accused man tells court he posed as an IRA sympathizer

Barry Reid, one of three men accused of murdering an army colonel, said at his trial yesterday that he had posed as an IRA sympathizer to "lead on" his two fellow-defendants.

Mr Reid said that when they arrived there was no response from the house and the three men started back down the path. Another few seconds, and they would have been back on the house and Mr O'Connell and Mr Kane turned back. As the colonel reached the door Mr O'Connell fired.

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Mr Heath names the leader makers

By Our Political Editor Mr Heath last night announced the membership of the committee of 10, all men, to whom he has referred the task of recommending any revision of the procedure for electing Conservative leaders.

Mineworkers' union sets up an inquiry into pit ballot irregularities

By Our Labour Editor The National Union of Mineworkers yesterday set up an inquiry into the alleged irregularities in last week's secret pithead ballot, which led to the disqualification of 11,400 votes cast by South Wales miners and Scottish colliery craftsmen.

Major Britton said that the branches concerned, all but three in South Wales, had been discounted because they recorded a poll of more than 95 per cent (in some cases more than 100 per cent) of the stated membership at the pit.

EEC referendum proposals due tomorrow

By George Clark Political Correspondent Mr Gerald Fowler, Minister of State for the European Communities, is expected tomorrow to outline the Government's contingency plans for holding a referendum on Britain's continued membership of the EEC.

London local papers aim to publish, despite strike

By Alan Hamilton Labour Staff Most of London's local newspapers will appear as usual this week in spite of a strike by seven hundred members of the National Union of Journalists, the Newspaper Society said yesterday.

Left financing Glasgow sewage strike

Left-wing extremists are financing and advising the 126 Glasgow sewerage workers who have been on unofficial strike for six weeks, Mr David Tomlinson, Scottish regional officer of the General and Municipal Workers' Union, alleged at a Glasgow corporation press conference last night.

Mr Wilson loses move in libel case

Lawyers for the Prime Minister yesterday failed in an attempt to get court orders striking out paragraphs in the defences of the Daily Express and Daily Mail to his libel actions over land deals.

Solicitors work at loss in courts, journal says

By Our Legal Correspondent The Law Society has responded to recent criticism of the high costs of litigation by publishing statistics showing that most solicitors carry on court work at a loss.

Jury acquits film-maker of conspiracy

John Lindsay, aged 42, cleared by an all-male Birmingham Crown Court jury of conspiracy to obstruct justice after a jury failed to agree on his guilt.

MP seeks end to secrecy

By Geoffrey Smith Political Staff The Government will be asked on November 29 to ensure that no future planning inquiries shall be held in secret.

Weather forecast and recordings

centred near Iceland but troughs of low pressure will move towards S Britain. Forecasts for 6 am to midnight: London, SE and central S of England: Occasional rain at first, fog patches, then cloudy, few bright intervals, further rain at night; wind W, or variable light, backing SE, moderate; max temp 10°C (50°F).

Detergent on beaches 'worse than oil'

From Our Correspondent Tavistock Detergent used in an effort to clear Cornish beaches of crude oil after the Torrey Canyon disaster seven years ago caused more harm than the oil, a group of botanists says.

Heir took own life

Mr Julian Ormsby Gore, aged 33, heir of Lord Harlech, took his own life because of illness, the Hammersmith coroner decided yesterday. Friends said he had suffered from depression. He was found shot in his Fulham flat on November 5.

700,000 tenancies to be spared fair-rent legislation

By Our Social Services Correspondent The automatic transfer of 700,000 controlled tenancies to fair-rent legislation will be stopped under an order made yesterday by Mr Crosland, Secretary of State for the Environment. The order defers automatic decontrol until December 31, 1975, by which time the new rent Bill is expected to be law. The move is part of Mr Crosland's promise to repeal the Conservative Housing Finance Act, 1972, which introduced fair-rent for council tenants and provided for a phased transfer of controlled tenancies to the fair-rent regulations.

Mr Wilson loses move in libel case

Lawyers for the Prime Minister yesterday failed in an attempt to get court orders striking out paragraphs in the defences of the Daily Express and Daily Mail to his libel actions over land deals. But at a day-long private hearing before a High Court master the two newspapers succeeded in getting a paragraph of Mr Wilson's claim struck out.

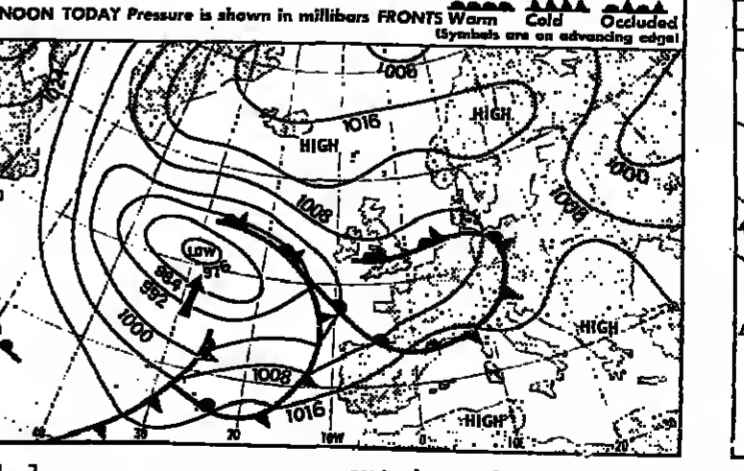


Table with weather forecasts for various cities including London, Edinburgh, Glasgow, and Belfast. Columns include location, sun/moon times, and temperature ranges.

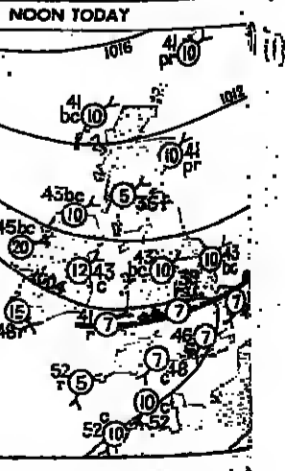
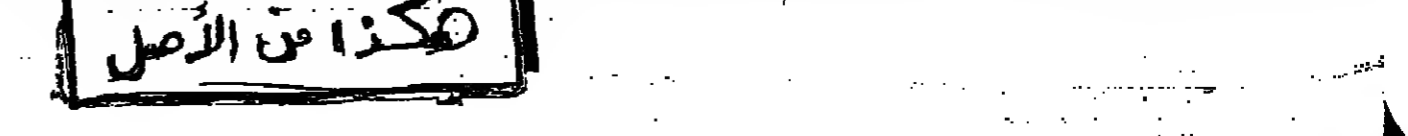


Table with weather forecasts for various cities including London, Edinburgh, Glasgow, and Belfast. Columns include location, sun/moon times, and temperature ranges.



People who wore black hats at Provisional Sinn Féin anti-interment rally are fined £50

Five people who wore black hats at a Provisional Sinn Féin anti-interment rally at St Paul's Cathedral, London, were fined the maximum of £50 each. Fines and costs totalled £780.

John Nichols, the Lambeth magistrate, said: "Persons wearing black hats at their heads at their total and absolute sound all of them over for years in the sum of £150 to good behaviour."

William John McGrath, of 100 Street, King's Cross, London, who Mr Nichols said was wearing a black hat on November 11 and flouted the law, was sentenced to three months imprisonment, suspended for two months in addition to a fine. Charges were brought under the Public Order Act, 1936, which prohibits wearing uniforms at political meetings. Mr Nichols said Mr McGrath had worn the whole of the hat, "if it can be so described."

Mr Lawrence Kerone, of 100 Street, King's Cross, London, who Mr Nichols said was wearing a black hat on November 11 and flouted the law, was sentenced to three months imprisonment, suspended for two months in addition to a fine. Charges were brought under the Public Order Act, 1936, which prohibits wearing uniforms at political meetings. Mr Nichols said Mr McGrath had worn the whole of the hat, "if it can be so described."

Mr Kerone told the court she was wearing a black hat and banner had thrust into her hand and

Husband killed as wife dozed, court told

While her lover lay in wait for her husband with a gun, Elizabeth Torrance went to bed and dozed off, it was alleged at Glasgow High Court yesterday.

Mrs Torrance, aged 28, and her lover, David Watt, have both denied murdering William Torrance in a barn at Carleith Farm, Dumfries, near Glasgow, in August. They also deny shooting Mr Torrance in the body and striking him repeatedly on the head with a gun butt or similar instrument. Mrs Torrance further denies that she previously evicted malice and ill will towards her husband.

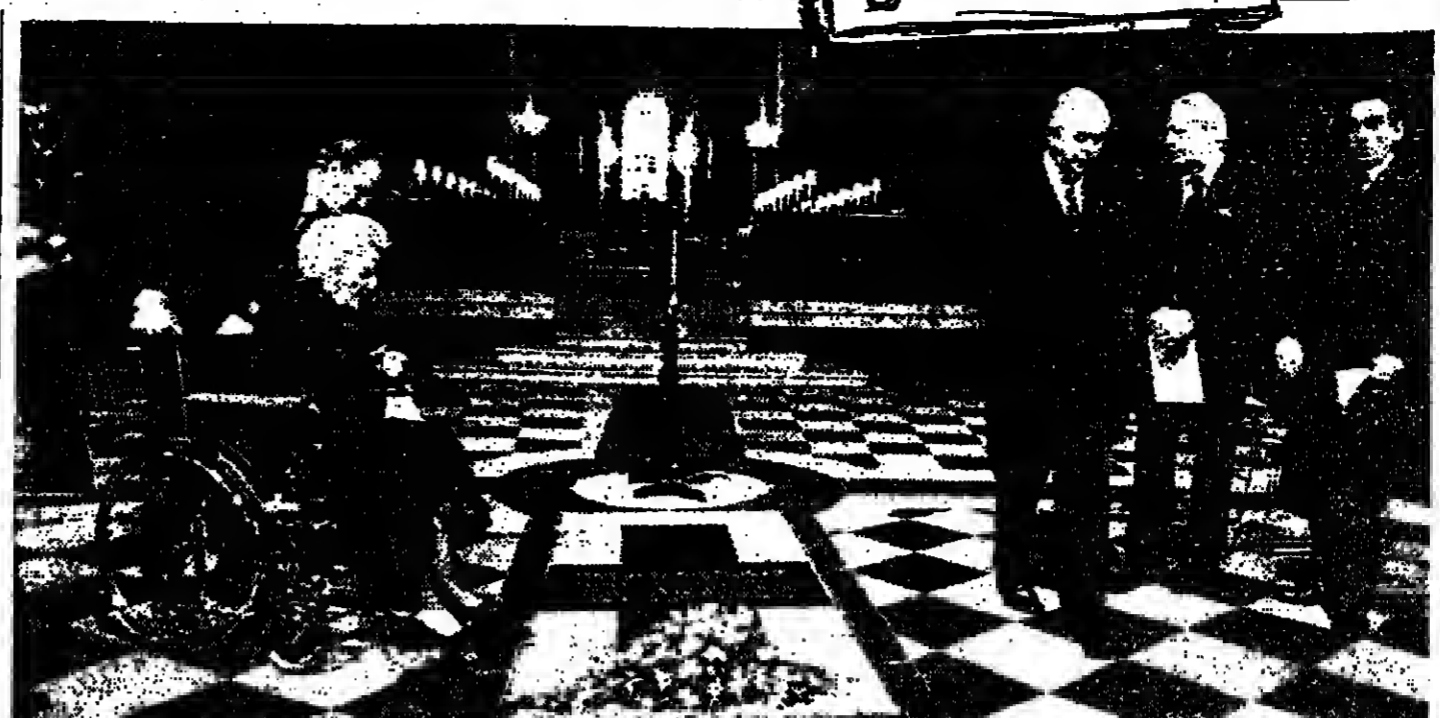
Det Inspector Ian Robinson, in evidence on the fourth day of the trial, read an alleged statement by Mrs Torrance in which she said that for about 10 days she had been going out with a man.

On the night of August 2, the man came to Carleith Farm with a gun and said he was going to kill Mr Torrance, who was out. Mrs Torrance did not believe the man meant it. She said she went to bed.

Soon afterwards the man with the gun came and said: "Do you want to see him?" Mrs Torrance replied "No". Later she called the police.

Inspector Robinson said that after talking with her solicitor Mrs Torrance gave the police the name and address of Mr Watt.

The trial continues today.



Mr Winston Churchill and Lady Spencer-Churchill viewing the memorial plaque to Sir Winston unveiled in St Paul's Cathedral yesterday. On the right are Mr Wilson, Mr Heath and Mr Thorpe.

Explosives plot trial to go ahead after delay

A judge ruled at Manchester Crown Court yesterday that committal proceedings against four people on explosion charges were no longer legal. The defendants, including two sisters, were taken a mile across the city under tight security to the magistrates' court, where they were charged again.

Ann Bernadette Gillespie, aged 24, a hospital receptionist, her sister Eileen, aged 21, a nurse, both of Victoria Grove, Fallowfield, Manchester, Edward Byrne, aged 29, an unemployed painter, of Woodpecker Walk, Chelmsley Wood, and Patrick Guilfoyle, aged 24, of Chesterton Road, Sparkbrook, both of Birmingham, were remanded in custody until November 29, charged with conspiring to cause explosions and to commit arson and with possessing explosives.

At the Crown Court, Mr Christopher Rose, QC, for Mr Byrne, argued that trials had to be held within eight weeks of committal proceedings unless otherwise ordered.

Mr C. B. K. Mantell, for prosecution, said the delay was caused because of investigation into those matters and others and the possibility of linking them. He said the prosecution would issue a voluntary bill of indictment so that the trial could take place.

The judge, refusing bail, ordered that the trial should start in Manchester on February 3.

Teachers at Commons demand rise

By Our Education Correspondent

A bout four hundred Scottish teachers went to the House of Commons yesterday to demand an immediate rise of £15 a week backdated to May 24. Inside the Commons, several Scottish teachers had angry exchanges with Scottish MPs who suggested that they should await the report of the committee of inquiry into teachers' pay under Lord Houghton, before Christmas.

But Mr Thomas Femm, chairman of the East of Scotland action group, which is organizing unofficial strikes throughout Scotland, said it was clear that the Government did not intend an increase to meet teachers' demands.

He said: "We cannot afford to wait for the Houghton report. Nothing less than £15 a week will stop an educational disaster in Scotland with massive disruption of schools. We must forget Houghton altogether."

The teachers, whose action was not supported by the Educational Institute of Scotland, the main teachers' union, also wrote to Mr Wilson: "Only £15 now will be in any way sufficient to stop the current exodus of teachers from the profession or to lay the basis for increased recruitment to fill the understaffed schools of this country."

The teachers represent more than two thousand members in the east and west of Scotland action groups.

Disabled workers get pay review

Remploy, the government-supported company for employing disabled people, has agreed with Mr Foot, Secretary of State for Employment, to review wages of its severely disabled workers.

Mr D. H. Carter, Remploy's chairman, said yesterday that the company's wages are to be compared with those covered by agreements of the National Joint Council for Workshops for the Blind.

European law uniformity an inevitable trend

By Our Political Staff

Rippon, Opposition spokesman on foreign and Commonwealth affairs, who was European negotiator for Conservative Government, predicted last night that the effect of EEC membership on domestic law could be compared with that of many other treaties which have been signed voluntarily.

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After the amazing Beta saloons, it should come as no surprise to find that the new Lancia Beta Coupé costs a good deal less than £3000. What may be a little surprising is just how much you get for your money.

To begin with, it's a beautiful car. Inside and out.

And its performance is nothing less than spirited. Nought to sixty in around 10 seconds and a maximum of over 110mph. It gets there by courtesy of a 1592cc twin cam engine, driving the front wheels through a crisp, 5-speed gearbox. Together, they give the Beta Coupé the kind of fuel consumption normally associated with small family saloons.

At a constant speed of 75mph, for instance, with two people in the car, we achieved well over 30mpg.

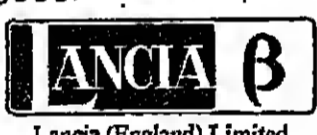
Inside, there are four deeply cushioned seats that look extremely comfortable and feel even better. All four have integral head restraints and the front pair are fully adjustable for length and rake.

And the whole passenger compartment is surrounded by a rigid safety cage and major impact forces are absorbed by progressive collapse sections, front and rear.

The car behaves very safely too. Thanks to all round independent suspension, which endows it with superb handling and roadholding.

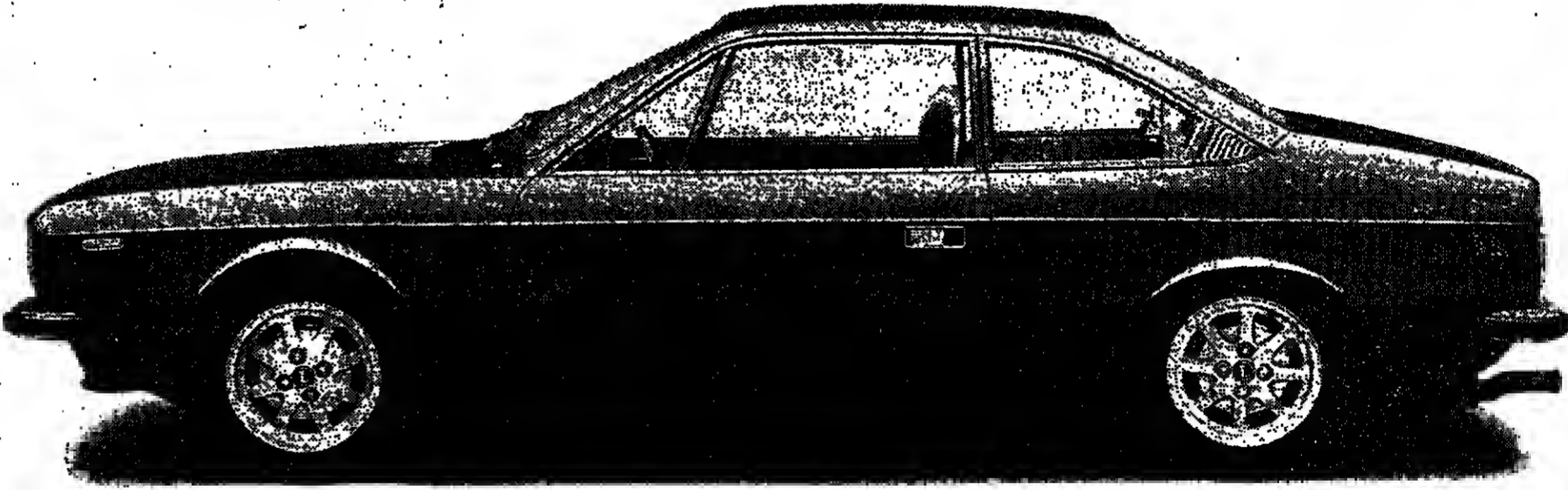
Standard equipment includes dual circuit brakes on all four wheels, a vertically adjustable steering column, four quartz halogen headlamps, 2-speed wipers with intermittent sweep, light alloy road wheels, a heated rear window. Even a gauge which indicates the oil level in the sump at the touch of a button. Without the need to mess around with the dipstick and an oily rag.

So one way and another, the Beta Coupé is an exciting car. Especially when you consider how much change you're getting out of £3000.



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- HUMBERSIDE - NORTH**
Broughton: Heale Auto Engineers, Cross Roads, Broughton, Tel: 0482 697225/6
- HUMBERSIDE - SOUTH**
Cleethorpe: Drove Short Motors, 498a Grimsby Road, Tel: 0472 63592
- KENT**
Bromley: Normand (Bromley), Bromley Hill Garage, Tel: 01-460 1194 5-8
- LANCASHIRE**
Blackpool: Church Road Garage, Church Road, St. Annes-on-Sea, Tel: 0253 726879
- Leicestershire**
Leicester: Trinity Motors, Aylestone Road, Tel: 0533 83052
- LONDON**
N.W.2: Maurice Fross, Herley Avenue, Mill Hill, Tel: 01-859 7435
- Merseyside**
Liverpool: Bolton & Sons, Pich Lane, Tel: 051488 4433/4
- Middlesex**
Aldershot: Latham Garages, Ashmore Road West, Tel: 68 52084/54599
- NORFOLK**
King's Lynn: Hill & Osbourne, Bridge Depot, St. James, Tel: 0553 85295
- NORTHAMPTONSHIRE**
Kettering: Brownhugh Motors, Northampton Road, Broughton, Tel: 053 677 224
- NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**
Nottingham: Blackwell Motors, Lane End Garage, Melton Road, Tollerston, Tel: 060 77 4021/2
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- Suffolk**
Ipswich: Gelf Garage, Fossil Road, Tel: 0473 78377
- SURREY**
Caterham: Chapman & Edwards, High Street, Tel: 42298
- SUSSEX - EAST**
Brighton: Cooden Motors, Little Common, Tel: 04243 2163
- SUSSEX - WEST**
Burgess Hill: Talley's (Sussex), London Road, Tel: 0448 42431
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Wootton Bassett: Dick Lovett (Specialist Cars), High Street, Tel: 0783 81287
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- Yorkshire - SOUTH**
Beverly: Jewett Motors Park Road, Tel: 057 66 3558
- Yorkshire - WEST**
Huddersfield: Lockwood Motor Garage, Lockwood Road, Tel: 0484 29344
- SCOTLAND**
Aberdeen: Glen Henderson Motors, Whitehall Road, Tel: 0224 28349
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Cardiff: Snow, Garage, Tredegar Road, Tredegar, Tel: 0222 20328
- Channel Islands**
Guernsey: Doyle Motors, Doyle Road, St. Peter Port, Tel: 0481 24025

TUC presses for end to club colour bar

By Our Labour Staff

The TUC is to apply pressure on the Club and Institute Union, to which many working men's clubs belong, to end any racial discrimination. This follows a House of Lords ruling that a Preston club acted within the law in excluding a coloured man.

The TUC said yesterday that it had consistently condemned discrimination in clubs on grounds of colour, race or origin and had brought this several times to the attention of its affiliates and trades councils.

The Home Secretary will also be asked to hear that in mind when considering a review of the effectiveness of the Race Relations Act.

Minister to seek decision meeting jailed pickets

By Our Labour Staff

The Home Secretary will seek a meeting with the Prime Minister to press for the release of the two shury building workers who are still in jail after a conspiracy charges. Leaders also plan to lobby the Home Secretary of their own to the use of the conspiracy laws in connection with picketing. They claim that they viewed the case as ranging up to three imprisonment as severe. Jenkins replied that the men had sought to go to the House of Lords to the rejection of their appeal by the Court of Appeal, use was such justice and not to be discussed.

Solicitor client saw no reason to suspect firm

Our Correspondent

Minerals shares but he had never given permission for them to be pledged.

Mr Francis John Martin, a former mayor of Tewkesbury, said he bought Westfield Minerals on Mr Bartlett's advice. Mr William Gibson, a chartered accountant, of West House, Somerset, said that in April, 1970, he met Mr Bradbeer by appointment in a Bristol club. He gained the impression that he was short of cash. Mr Bradbeer wanted him to buy some shares, which he would later buy for him. He did not do so.

Mr Terence Murphy, of Telford House, North Road, Long Ashton, Bristol, told the court that Bartlett was his stockbroker for 15 years until they went out of business in 1970.

In three transactions he bought 1,850 Westfield Minerals bonds. Mr Murphy, a Bristol manager of Norwich Union until his retirement, said he never received the bonds or share certificates. He had never given permission for the bonds to be pledged. Later he had received 12s 6d compensation from the Stock Exchange for each.

The hearing continues today.

Peers in murder hunt

Peers in murder hunt

Lord Longford's son, Patrick Pakenham, aged 38, a barrister, of London Road, Sunningdale, Berkshire, was remanded on bail until February 12 at Chertsey Magistrates' Court, Surrey, yesterday charged with being drunk and disorderly.

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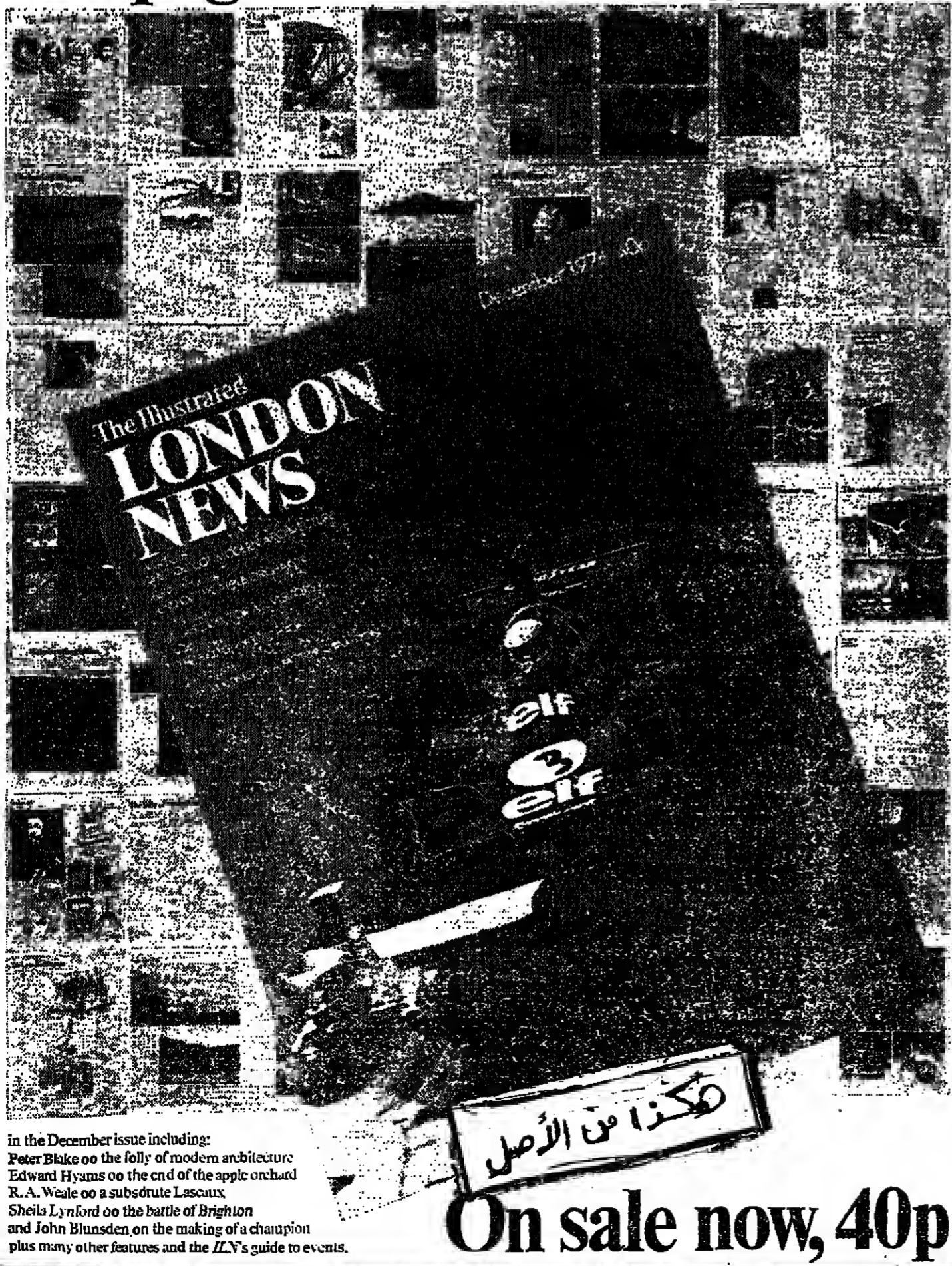
and a mass of financial advice as well. The book will be on sale next year in the bookshops, but if you are approaching retirement and open an account with us now, you will receive a free copy.

Why not call in at Barclays and start on the path to a trouble-free retirement?



BARCLAYS

164 pages of words and pictures



In the December issue including: Peter Blake on the folly of modern architecture; Edward Hymas on the end of the apple orchard; R.A. Weale on a substitute Lascaux; Sheila Lyford on the battle of Brighton; and John Blunsden on the making of a champion plus many other features and the L.N.'s guide to events.

On sale now, 40p

HOME NEWS

New air rules aid safety but will alter noise areas

By Arthur Reed

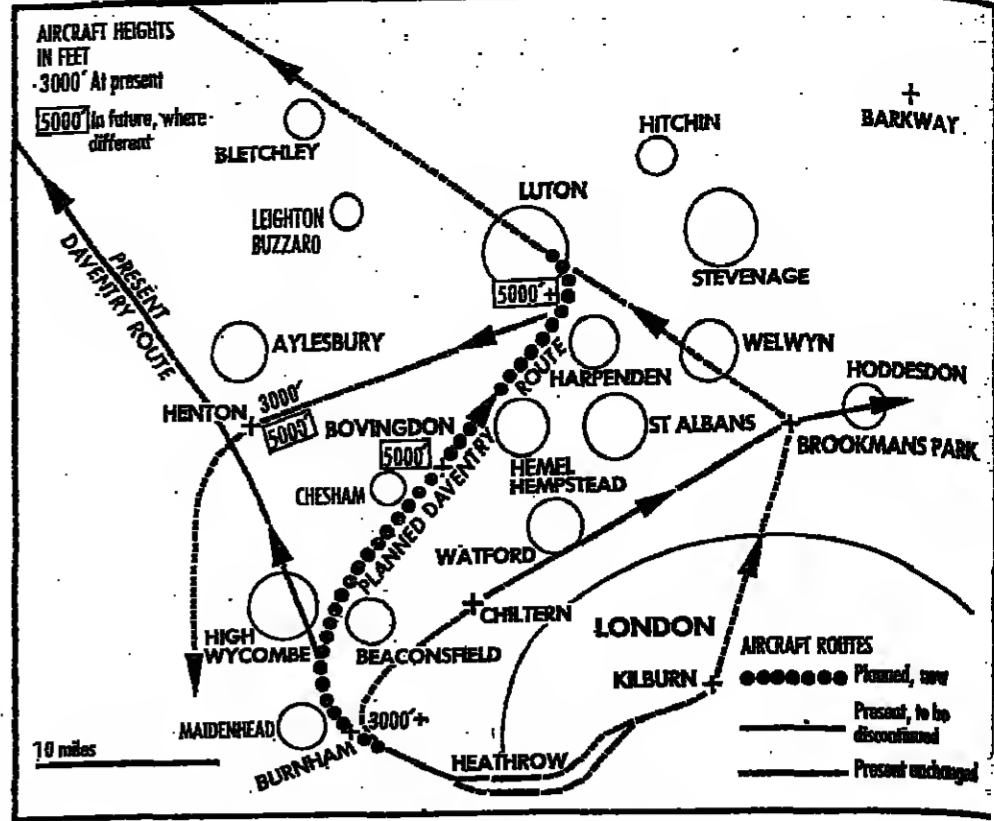
Radical changes in rules for the London air traffic control zone to be introduced in April should improve flight safety but will bring aircraft noise to areas that have not suffered it before.

The new noise area is a corridor 25 miles long by four miles wide on the borders of Bedfordshire and Buckinghamshire stretching from Beaconsfield in the south to Luton in the north, and taking in Chesham and Hemel Hempstead.

From April 24, that will become the main departure route from Heathrow for airliners going north on the major "amber" airway. When take-offs from London airport are to the west, normally two days out of three, it will be used by about a hundred aircraft a day, and by about 12 between 11 pm and 6 am.

Airliners using the new route will be at least 3,000 ft up as they turn on to it over the Burnham beacon, at least 5,000 ft as they pass over the Bovington beacon just to the north of Chesham, and above 5,000 ft by the time they reach Luton.

The change in the departure route will greatly benefit the ground High Wycombe, over which most northbound traffic from Heathrow passes. Announcing the changes in London yesterday, the Civil



The effect of the new flight plans on areas affected by noise.

Aviation Authority said they would reduce the possibility of conflict between airliners using the amber airway between Heathrow and Daventry. At present, traffic leaving Heathrow to the west lies up the left of the airway. Traffic taking off to the east uses the right.

When the take-off direction is suddenly changed, because of a change in the wind direction, airliners in transit have to "cross over" the airway, endangering traffic. Under the revised scheme, all departing traffic will use the right of the airway, joining airliners leaving Gatwick, and those crossing the country from airports on the Continent.

A further important change to the London terminal area he introduced on April 1, the lowering to 2,500 ft a height within the area which light and general aviation would have to fly at heights up to 5,000 ft without a flight plan; there is an obvious danger of conflict with the 2,000 ft aircraft that pass through area each day.

Thousands of jobs waiting for graduates

By Tim Devlin

Education Correspondent

There are thousands of jobs for graduates, despite the economic crisis. But students are not applying for them, and when they do some are being turned away because they are underselling themselves, a careers conference in London was told yesterday.

Mr Christopher Priddle, careers adviser at the Polytechnic of the South Bank, London, said he was finding nothing like the boom that politicians were expressing. He was speaking at a conference to launch a new series of guides to careers for graduates.

"We were waiting for cancellations and reductions in employers' recruitment schemes, but they have not come about", he said, "politicians say there is an economic crisis, but our order books are full. Hundreds of firms like British Leyland, ICI, Shell, Ford, and Rolls-Royce are still looking for graduates."

But students were bad at filling up forms. Mr Michael Rines, author of one of the guides on marketing and sales, said: "The problem starts at school, where kids are not taught how to sell themselves and how to lay out an examination answer attractively."

One graduate applying for a job had written to a firm saying: "Dear Sir, I am a graduate and I would like a job. Yours sincerely, [Name]". Careers guides for graduates (Haymarket Publishing Ltd, 5 Wimsley Street, London, W1A 2EG, free).

Colonel denies he gained pleasure from giving pain

Lieutenant-Colonel John Elliott Brooks, aged 64, who told a High Court jury on Tuesday that he liked smacking girls' bottoms, denied yesterday that he gained pleasure from inflicting pain on them. He was concluding his evidence after being in the witness box for four and a half hours.

He admitted having spanked half a dozen women at his flat, another half-dozen on his boat and "one or two after hunting." He had used a whip perhaps once or twice, but there was no violence or considerable pain involved.

"Spanking is only done to someone who likes it or is enjoying the fun", Colonel Brooks said. "Of course there is some pain, but a lot of people enjoy that."

Colonel Brooks, of Carlyle Mansions, Chiswick, Wiltshire, a solicitor, is suing IPC Newspapers Ltd and Michael O'Flaherty, claiming damages for libel in an article written by Mr O'Flaherty alleging that the colonel trapped Miss Susan Carr, aged 19, on his cabin cruiser, ordered her to strip, and spanked her bare bottom. The newspaper denies libel and pleads justification, saying that the article is true and fair comment on a matter of public interest.

During cross-examination on the second day of the hearing yesterday, Mr Michael Eastham, QC, for the newspaper, asked Colonel Brooks: "Do you obtain sexual pleasure by putting your hand up a woman's skirt when she is not wearing either tights or knickers?"

Colonel Brooks replied: "Not sexual pleasure; pleasure." Questioning Colonel Brooks about the girl crew on his boat, Mr Eastham asked: "You expect them to obey you instantly?"

Colonel Brooks: "Yes." In relation to your sexual pleasure you also expect instant obedience?—Certainly not.

The colonel agreed that he told the girls: "I am in com-

mand." He added: "They were expecting money as well."

Colonel Brooks said he certainly did not beat Miss Carr. "I am 14st, he told the jury. "If I beaten her she would have felt it a great deal more and would have been more than a little sore", as she said.

Colonel Brooks said that when Miss Carr telephoned him about six weeks after the slapping incident, on September 29, 1972, he sensed that the call was being "bugged". He agreed with his counsel, Mr Roger Gray, QC, that he had arranged to meet Miss Carr and Miss Susan Goodwin, a reporter of the Sunday People at the Wig and Pen Club for lunch that day. "Because I wanted to know what they were up to."

The colonel said he thought they might be trying some form of blackmail, which he intended to pursue and to take appropriate steps.

Questioned about the last meeting he had with Miss Carr and Miss Goodwin, at the Wig and Pen, the colonel said he had arranged for his chauffeur's wife and a member of his personal staff to be present as witnesses.

Although it had been arranged with Miss Carr that Miss Goodwin should join him on the boat, she never did so.

Miss Joy Cobbold told the court that she had been Colonel Brooks' secretary since 1971. Describing Miss Carr's visit to the colonel's office in August, 1972, Miss Cobbold said there was some general "chit-chat" before the question of Miss Carr's going on the boat arose.

When Miss Carr asked about her duties on the boat Colonel Brooks turned to Mrs Pamela Putnik, an arid clerk in his office, and told her to tell Miss Carr "what subject they had been discussing". Mrs Putnik then said: "Oh, flagellation."

Miss Cobbold said she did not wish to sit around and hear the rest of the conversation so she switched up my bits and pieces and left the office."

In brief

Detective sent perjury trial

Det Sergeant Grant, aged 32, of Alexandra Ashford, Middlesex, was committed to the Central Criminal Court yesterday for a £1,000 bond from Bow Street Magistrate's Court yesterday, charged with attempting to pervert the course of justice in October 1969, by fabricating evidence for the prosecution of Arthur Under the Dangerous Drug Act. He is also accused of a false statement in court proceedings against three people.

Banned driver jailed

Albert Haywood, aged 47, Trinity Road, Whetstone, Leicestershire, was sentenced to 12 months imprisonment for driving a motor car without a licence for two years for offences, including driving a motor car without a licence.

25 solicitors sought

West Midlands County Council, based in Birmingham, is advertising 25 solicitor salaries totalling about £1 a year.

Makinen wins

Timo Makinen, of Finland and his British co-driver, Liddon, won the Lombard Rally, which finished in yesterday. At Mass Ca won the women's award.

Dearer mortgages

New council mortgage Bromley will rise to a 12 per cent from next March. Existing borrowers will pay a new rate from next March.

Prisoner surrenders

A prisoner surrendered yesterday after harricading in his cell at Arbury, Leicestershire, for 24 hours in defiance of a decision to transfer him to another prison.

TUC reform plans in government programmes

The following circular on collective bargaining and the social contract was issued yesterday by the TUC to all affiliated unions. It was adopted by the general council's report Collective Bargaining and the Social Contract, the election of a Labour Government with a working majority committed to the pursuit of policies advocated by congress has been generally welcomed in all sections of the Labour movement.

The general council's report set out the achievement of the Labour Government, the first of which was to end the three-day week. In a period of only six months the Government repealed the Industrial Relations Act and abolished the Pay Board and statutory interference with collective bargaining. The independent conciliation and arbitration service began its work in September. Price control was strengthened and an extra £500 million allocated for food subsidies. Rents were frozen, local authority housing expanded, and mortgage rates pegged.

The manifesto on which the Government has now been returned sets out a bold programme of reform, incorporating all the major policies advocated by congress. A large number of these commitments has now been included in the legislative programme for action in the first session of Parliament. They will include the completion of the task of repealing the Industrial Relations Act and the introduction of a major employment protection Bill. Other measures include legislation to establish planning agreements and a national enterprise board; to bring the shipbuilding and aircraft industries into public ownership; to set up development agencies in Scotland and Wales; to take land required for development into community ownership; steps to regulate and provide for employment stability in the construction industry; to establish comprehensive employment security in the ports; to establish a British National Oil Corporation to secure a fair distribution of income and wealth.

The Queen's Speech also incorporates the commitment, among other matters, to EEC renegotiation and a referendum, and a reduction in the share of national income going to defence.

The world economic situation is no less menacing today than it was a year ago, but even so it seems as if the interests of Britain, or of the world economy as a whole, to cut back production and living standards. A return to economic policies of the 1930s would be a disaster, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer has emphasized that the United Kingdom Government are opposed to any such approach. International cooperation has never been more vital, and among the major priorities is to ensure that the huge surpluses of the oil-producing countries are used positively.

The Chancellor has acted in the Budget to expand the economy in Britain. Although the measures have not been as wide-ranging as the general council would have wished, they can be seen as a courageous endeavour to protect employment, stimulate investment and promote social justice. But unless new methods of giving selective help to industry, accountants to government are speedily developed, the momentum of the Budget will be lost. Particular industries, such as construction and building materials, are in difficulties and the general council will wish to discuss with the government the growth of public expenditure on a wide range of issues, such as housing, education and social services.

Committees of the general council have already held meetings with the Prime Minister and his colleagues as well as direct meetings with ministers on a wide range of issues, including matters affecting particular industries. There will be continuing meetings with ministers both directly and through the liaison committee to discuss economic strategy and the policies adopted by congress as a whole. There will continue to be, through TUC industrial committees where appropriate, the closest contact with affiliated unions and continuing discussion of any problems which may arise as these major national policies are being formulated.

Of prices, the general council have noted with approval that the Chancellor has resisted demands by industrialists for the abolition of the Price Code and the reduction of corporation tax. The Chancellor's reference to the need to control prices and subsidies for the nationalized industries will have to be continued as part of a total review of the finances of these industries, and affiliated unions will know that the general council are currently reviewing the replies received to the TUC circular on this subject. They have emphasized that the need to keep down prices is still a high priority in the context of the social contract.

The general council have in no way altered their belief that a wide-ranging system of permanent price control is an essential part of the policy of ensuring that living standards are maintained. This is not to say that prices will not rise; indeed, as real personal incomes generally will only be maintained if prices are raised at roughly the same rate as wages. But it is clear that it would be far better if we could gradually get prices to rise more slowly, with money wages correspondingly not going up so fast, than to have prices and wages equating with each other at a higher and higher level. Any such tendency would inevitably be self-defeating for most trade unionists.

The maintenance of living standards was the central theme of the general council's recommendations on collective bargaining contained in the statement approved by congress. Nothing has happened since to alter the assessment made in June that, while the groundwork is being laid for future increases in consumption and living standards, the scope for real increases in consumption at present is limited and a central negotiating objective in the coming period will therefore be to ensure that real incomes are maintained. This entails continuing compensation for the rise in the cost of living since the last settlement, taking into account the fact that threshold agreements, where they apply, will already have given some compensation for current price increases. The question has been asked by some unions what the position will be in respect of threshold agreements after the November date has been incorporated in many agreements. On this point, the general council recognize that, where annual

agreements still have some to run, some unions may seek continued protection by extension of the existing threshold payments, though they should equally bear in mind that such payments will need to be taken account in negotiating the principal increase.

The importance in general of awarding interval settlements is one the general council still wish to emphasize. Unions which are considering whether they seek to negotiate an earlier agreement in order to anticipate avoid a freeze in the position of statutory control over collective bargaining should note the specific assurance given by the Prime Minister, as well as the fact that there be no freeze and no reimposition of statutory controls over collective bargaining.

Another important recommendation contained in the statement Collective Bargaining and the Social Contract relates to low wages. The TUC's target, which was adjusted at the time of congress to a minimum wage of £30 a normal week, has featured a number of negotiations, in some where the target has been sought. The general council wish to emphasize that the figure of £30 is a target. Very large percentage increases are needed to secure £30, or to meet it, this does not mean that the target should be the order should be sought for workers. It is not the purpose of this circular to reiterate every point set out in the earlier statement. Much progress has been made in the position in which the union movement found itself a few months ago, and it is important to put on record again the general council's appreciation of the real contribution made by affiliated unions in continuing to operate within the guidelines of the social contract to seek advice when in doubt about the application of the social contract's provisions and to respond to an invitation to discuss their situation, and to do what they can to ensure success in their circumstances. The social contract's positive approach to the general council and industrial needs.

WEST EUROPE

Brandt proposal for a temporary division of Community will be given close study by Britain

David Spanier, London Correspondent... The Government is going to...

just how wide a net the process of renegotiation covers... The principal changes which...

On relations with the United States... (which many members of the Labour Party regard as of paramount importance), the...

There was no official comment on Herr Brandt's idea... which was made in a speech in...

Perhaps the most revealing part of the report is the distinctly encouraging tone in which political cooperation in the Community is described...

The report adds that the nine governments agreed to establish a Europe-Arab "dialogue" with the Arab states through which it is hoped to create an increasingly constructive relationship with the Arab world...

Midnap victim freed in state of shock

Brescia, Nov 20.—Kidnappers released Signor Giuseppe Schini, the son of an Italian...

Holy Year will show up Rome's public services

From Our Own Correspondent Rome, Nov 20... Increasing fears are being expressed over the possible ecological and health hazards to which Rome will be subjected in Holy Year...

Two weeks ago the city's health officer stated, in a letter to the municipal authorities, that in view of the coming Holy Year he felt "constrained to decline all responsibility, including responsibility before the law", unless urgent steps were taken about health services...

Madrid attempt to muzzle Andorra

From Our Correspondent Madrid, Nov 20... Spain is putting economic pressure on the tiny independent principality of Andorra in Pyrenees in what may be an attempt to force the Andorran authorities to silence anti-Spaniards there...

under instructions to charge full duty on every possible item... telephone, a prominent merchant in Andorra la Vella, the Andorran capital, referred to the Spanish measures as "political blackmail"...

It added that the Andorran people "regret, condemn and lament moral violence in the form of attacks against persons, institutions or symbols of friendly countries, regardless of ideological considerations..."

AID AND LIBERATION.

Many European governments, international organizations and churches have sent aid to the liberated areas of Mozambique, Angola and Guinea Bissau. They funded schools and clinics. They helped grow food and set up village co-operatives. They accepted that in what may have been an "awkward" political situation there remained a distinct humanitarian need. No help at all came from the British Government and precious little from British charities.



The report, Aid in Conflict, urges that Britain gives assistance to the people caught in these wars: the civilians, the refugees, the combatants. It also shows that the focus of war is shifting to Rhodesia, South-West Africa and South Africa. It explains why the people there should be helped, and it tries to resolve the doubts the British public may have about working through liberation movements to help this increasingly troubled region. We ask you to read Aid in Conflict so that you can decide for yourself. But please don't ignore this issue. It won't go away.

NAME: ADDRESS: Please send me... copies of Aid in Conflict... War On Want

US aid doubtful if Portugal goes communist

Lisbon, Nov 20.—Senator Edward Kennedy today said it would be unrealistic of Portugal to expect American aid if it had a communist government. But he called for immediate United States economic aid, saying Washington should not wait to see what sort of regime emerges after Portugal's Portuguese election next year...

Lisbon bids farewell to its yellow trams

The yellow trams of Lisbon are being withdrawn from service and are up for sale. Too expensive to run and maintain, too slow on the city's seven steep hills, they are to be replaced by buses mainly, and perhaps trolleybuses as well. A link is broken with Britain, for the "Carris" service was granted as a concession to a subsidiary of Lisbon Electric Tramways Ltd of London in 1898...

Italians are beginning to have doubts about their ruling class Moro Cabinet given only short-term credit

From Peter Nichols Rome, Nov 20... The fact that Signor Moro could formally accept the task today of leading a new government is in itself taken to be cause for some relief. But Italy's longest interregnum has ended—in the phrase of a leading commentator—with the extension of credit to the governing Christian democrats on only a short-term basis.

Public opinion has thus been stimulated by two considerations. The first concerns the ability of the country to emerge from its deep political and economic crisis. The politicians hardly did well for themselves by keeping the country without a government for the longest period since the foundation of the republic.



Signor Moro: hardly a fresh look about his appointments.

The second consideration is that the ruling party is not what it was and will certainly never be again. This raises the question of what could happen once Christian Democracy is set to have lost its old hegemony. The Communist newspaper L'Unita states today that the Christian Democrats must understand that the Italian people have indicated the need for a change of course. L'Unita has said as much scores of times in the past: it may now be true.

It is estimated that if the results of the local government elections were repeated in a national election, the Christian Democrats would lose a million votes and 40 seats in the Chamber of Deputies. The Government itself scarcely has a fresh look. The local government elections confirmed the shift leftward in the country but Signor Moro has not moved his party even a shade to the left.

Bomb explosion at home of Hamburg judge

Hamburg, Nov 20.—A bomb exploded at the house of a West German judge today in the latest incident of what police suspect is a planned wave of terror, by the Banders-Meinhof urban guerrilla group. The bomb went off in the back yard of the home of Judge Geert Ziegler, who has presided at trials of several Banders-Meinhof sympathizers. There were no casualties.

Farmers hail beef 'breakthrough'

By Our Agricultural Correspondent Plans to aid beef farmers through subsidies and EEC intervention buying were hailed by the National Farmers' Union yesterday as "a major breakthrough". The union added, however: "This has come too late to avoid a serious threat to beef supplies in 1976."

January, and a variable premium to bring the minimum livestock price for producers up to £18 a cwt now and almost £22 in January. The intervention system, under which beef is taken off the market and stored when prices fall below the intervention price, will provide a floor for the market price for carcase. The variable premium, which will be paid entirely from British funds and added to the present fixed premium, will bring a higher floor to the total price received by the farmer.

Its existence, however, will give beef producers the confidence that they have lacked for most of this year. The Meat and Livestock Commission said that the average price of fat cattle throughout the United Kingdom on the first two days of this week was £15.51 a live cwt. This was £1.31 higher than a week earlier and best-quality animals were now making as much as £21. Average cattle market prices

French 'national' strike a failure

From Charles Hargrove Paris, Nov 20

It is significant that today's issue of L'Humanité, the Communist newspaper, under the banner headlines "There were million yesterday strike of and "Demonstrations" should add immediately afterwards: "For the CGT and CFDT (trades union organization), negotiations are more essential than ever."

The fact is that if yesterday's demonstrations in Paris and throughout the country were the most impressive since 1968, the one day "national strike" was a failure. Even in the public services, where it was observed to the tune of between 50 and 80 per cent, public transport, which is the usual barometer of such strike action, was never completely paralyzed at any stage.

In private industry, there was little enthusiasm for the strike movement, even in steel and engineering, where a quarter of the labour force downed tools for one to three hours. At Renault, usually in the van of nationalized industries, only 10 per cent of the workers struck for one hour.

Going Metric.

Some news to bring you up to date.

Since we last gave you news of Britain's change-over to the metric system, some further changes have taken place which you might like to know about.

What is happening next? Clothing sizes will complete their change-over to metric during the course of next year, though shoe sizes are unlikely to alter for the time being.

New things going Metric.

The change you are most likely to have noticed in the shops lately is the new system of dual marking for clothes. Most clothing—for men, women and children—now has measurements quoted in centimetres as well as inches.

Early next year, fabrics will start to be sold in metres and parts of a metre instead of yards and parts of a yard. (Many new paper patterns already tell you how much material you are going to need in metres.)

It might be a help for you to note down your own measurements in metric, so that when clothes measurements are quoted only in centimetres you will have no trouble deciding which is your size. (Most tape measures these days show inches on one side and centimetres on the other.)

Fabric widths will stay the same, though you will find them quoted in centimetres as well as inches. Carpets also will start to be sold in metres and square metres early next year.

Further changes you may have noticed are that the new stock of blankets coming into the shops have gone metric; that most new dress patterns are now dual-marked in both centimetres and inches; and on the food front, that pasta products like uncooked macaroni may now be sold in metric packs.

The next two of the pre-packed foods which are usually bought by weight—sugar and salt—will be starting their changes to metric during 1975. In September 1975 the Post Office too will go metric.

Macaroni packs are being distinctively marked. Metric packs are being distinctively marked.

There will be plenty of notice of these changes and of other metric changes yet to come. The Metrication Board will let you know about them.

What are the Metric Measures?

The three metric measures which you are likely to be concerned with in day-to-day life are the metre, the litre and the kilogram.

You may like to cut out these metrication advertisements and keep them.

Three illustrations: 1. A measuring tape labeled 'The metre'. 2. A measuring cup labeled 'The litre'. 3. A kitchen scale labeled 'The kilogram'. Each has a short explanatory text.

Where to get more information. More information is available from your local Trading Standards Officer or Consumer Protection Officer (Inspector of Weights and Measures), from your Citizens' Advice Bureau, Consumer Advice Centre, or your local Women's Institute or Rural Community Council.

The Metrication Board 22 Kingsway, London WC2B 6LE

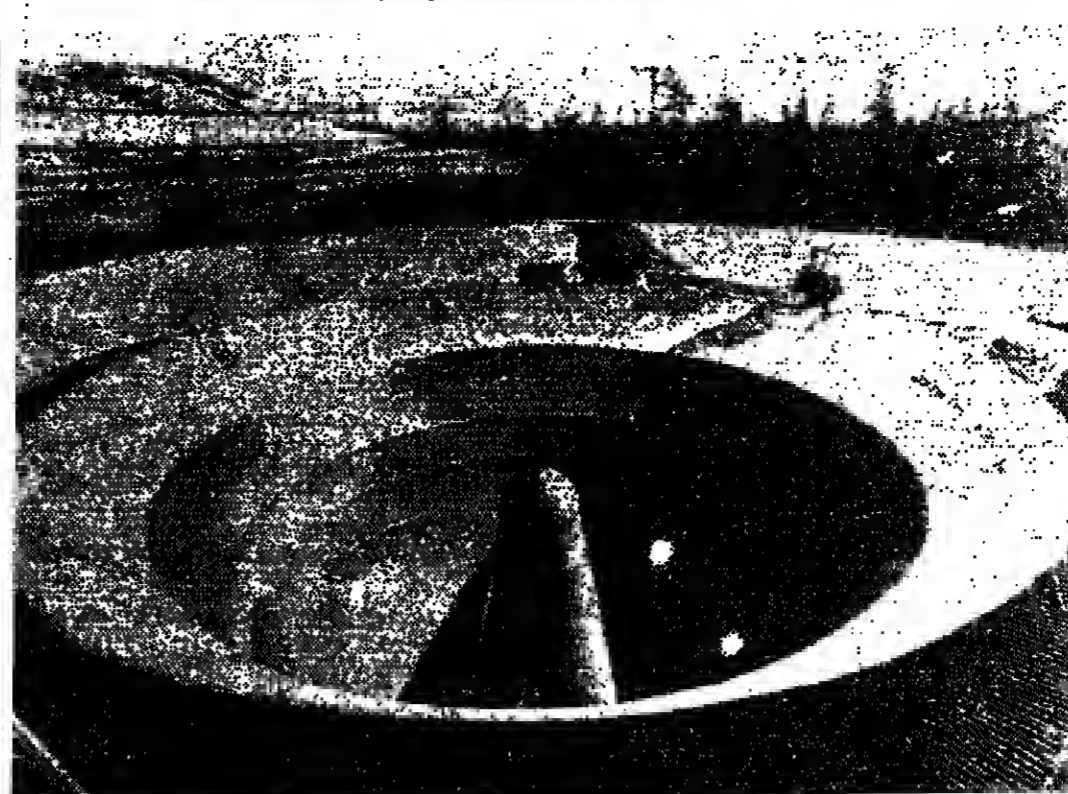
OVERSEAS

Food and energy crises linked with mutual defence pact in Ford-Tanaka summit talks

From Peter Hazelhurst Tokyo, Nov 20 Japanese and American leaders, who had summit talks in Tokyo today, decided that their mutual defence pact would now be superfluous unless they also formed an alliance to combat problems of food and energy which are emerging as the real new threats to their security.

Summing up the two rounds of political discussions between President Ford and Mr Kakuei Tanaka, the Japanese Prime Minister, Dr Henry Kissinger, the American Secretary of State, told journalists tonight that Mr Ford was more than pleased by the results of his historic visit to Japan, the first by an American head of state.

The Japan Socialist Party and the Komeito Party claimed that the Government had failed to extract firm assurances that American naval vessels will not carry nuclear weapons into Japanese ports in future.



Somewhere in the Soviet Union, the nose of a rocket peeps from its silo, watched by a lone technician. The photograph was issued officially.

Watergate trial to see TV recording

Recordings of television appearances are about to supplement the hours of playing back the tape-recorded conspiracy at the Watergate trial.

—of a period in which Mr Nixon desperately tried to have Mr John Mitchell "sacrificed" to prosecutors—

is preparing to make to the authorities of what he supposedly has "found out".

British support for Kissinger peace effort

Britain today gave support to the Middle East negotiations conducted by Dr Henry Kissinger, the United States Secretary of State.

Arab traders' boycott broken by troops

Arab shopkeepers in this small Christian town were this afternoon after staging the first complete Arab boycott in support of the Palestine Liberation Organization since the West Bank disturbances began a week ago.

S Korean officer killed in secret tunnel from north

Seoul, Nov 20—A South Korean officer was killed today and six other military personnel, five of them Americans, were wounded when an explosion ripped through a North Korean built tunnel in the demilitarized zone, the United Nations Command announced.

South Africa eases rules for black mineworkers

From Our Own Correspondent Cape Town, Nov 20 In an effort to ease its dependence on foreign African labour the South African Government has eased regulations which inhibit the recruitment of urban Africans to work in the mining industry.

Arafat call to PLO chiefs

Beirut, Nov 20—Mr Yassir Arafat, the Palestinian guerrilla leader, drove into Beirut from Damascus today and immediately conferred with military leaders to discuss the Israeli reprisals for yesterday's raid on Beth Shean.

Unesco approves sanctions against Israel

Paris, Nov 20 The Unesco General Conference today approved the condemnation of Israel and sanctions against it recommended by the cultural committee last week.

Kidnapped officer murdered by Argentine guerrillas

Buenos Aires, Nov 20—A kidnapped army officer was shot dead by left-wing guerrillas, who have his body for 10 months, as the police tried to rescue him during a fierce gun battle in a suburb of Buenos Aires, police sources said today.

Air strikes decide battle for Vietnam base

Saigon, Nov 20—Government infantry, supported by armoured cars and heavy air strikes, today recaptured a militia position on Saigons northern defence line lost to the communists last May, military sources said here.

Sudanese leader calls on Mr Sadat

From Our Own Correspondent Cairo, Nov 20 President Sadat and President Nimeiry of Sudan held consultations in Cairo today on the latest developments in the Middle East crisis and on inter-Arab affairs.

Last world chess game postponed

Moscow, Nov 20—The final game in the chess match between Viktor Korchnoi and Anatoly Karpov has been postponed from today until Friday.

Charities urged to aid freedom groups

By Martin Huckerby British charities and the British Government should provide humanitarian aid to African liberation movements, suggested a report in a report published yesterday.

Clerides warning on moves by armed groups

From Our Correspondent Nicosia, Nov 20 Mr Clerides, the acting President, left Nicosia for London today to brief Archbishop Makarios on the situation in Cyprus.

Jailed publisher goes on hunger strike in Manila

From Our Own Correspondent New York, Nov 20 Mr Eugenio Lopez, the publisher of the Manila Chronicle, has been on hunger strike in his prison cell in Manila since Monday, members of his family announced today.

Yugoslav minister's visit

By A. M. Rendel Mr Milos Mincic, the Yugoslav Foreign Minister, begins a two-day official visit to London on Monday, an official spokesman said.

Croatian Ustashi 'planned wave of assassination'

Zadar, Nov 20—Defence lawyers for 16 Croatian right-wing nationalists today demanded that three court officials be barred from a subsequent trial here.

Seoul murder appeal

Seoul, Nov 20—Muo S Kwang, convicted of murdering the wife of President Park Chung Hee, said that he would appeal to the Supreme Court.

Anguilla protest

The Valley, Anguilla, Nov 20—The Anguilla Council, headed by Mr Ronald Webster, the island's rebel leader, closed down operations today in protest against Britain's failure to settle the island's political status.

5,000-year-old chariot

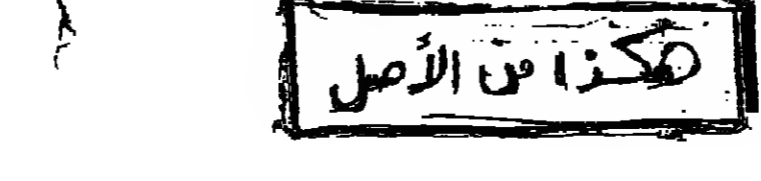
Moscow, Nov 20—Soviet archaeologists have uncovered in the Urals a two-wheeled chariot, dating back to about 3,500 BC and similar to those used in ancient Greece and Egypt, Tass said.

Caucasus earthquake

Moscow, Nov 20—Families were left homeless after a series of medium and light earthquakes hit the eastern Caucasus mountains last week, causing widespread damage to buildings, Tass reported today.

Cricketers' escape

Delhi, Nov 20—Alvin Kallicharan and Leonard Baichan, the West Indian cricketers, escaped serious injury last night when their car hit a traffic island in Hyderabad.



Conspiracy to effect public mischief not known to law

Report November 20 1974

of Public Prosecutions and Others
Lord Reid, Viscount Dilhorne, Lord Diplock, Lord Simon and Lord Kilbrandon
... on a criminal conspiracy to include a conspiracy to effect public mischief. The phrase "public mischief" is not in the law as it stands. It is a phrase which has been used in the past to describe a crime which is not defined in the law. It is a phrase which has been used in the past to describe a crime which is not defined in the law. It is a phrase which has been used in the past to describe a crime which is not defined in the law.

Itself a criminal offence whether done by him alone or in conjunction with other persons. It was, that was not an offence with which he was charged. In each case the subject matter of the charge was the prior agreement with other persons to do that which he did. It was to be inferred from the fact that they subsequently did it. In each case the prosecution had attached a different label to the agreement with which the defendant was charged. In each case, apart from *Shogwon*, their Lordships had found it necessary to embark on a detailed analysis of previous cases extending back to the seventeenth century in order to determine whether the defendant's alleged agreement to do that which he had done could be classified as a criminal conspiracy.

mission of such cinema owners, and in return for payments to such employees, cinematograph films, the consent of the copyright owner of the owners of the copyright and/or of distribution rights in such films, for the purpose of making and distributing copies and distributing the same on a commercial basis. Mr Blom-Cooper's submission that the appellant could not be convicted unless the first count be a conspiracy to defraud unless there was deceit was rejected by Judge Hines. The appellant then pleaded guilty to the first and seventh counts and was sentenced to two years imprisonment on count 1 and one year on count 2. His appeal against conviction on count 1 was dismissed, but the Court of Appeal certified a point of law: "Whether on a charge of conspiracy to defraud, the Crown must establish an agreement to deprive the owners of their property by deception; or whether it is sufficient to prove an agreement to deprive the owners of their property by deception and in circumstances of dishonesty."

Blom-Cooper conceded that by so doing they inflicted more than nominal damage to the goodwill of the owners of the copyright and distribution rights of the films. They secured for themselves profits which but for their actions might have been secured by those owners. In the circumstances they inflicted pecuniary loss on those owners. On the second contention under the Theft Act section 32(1) provided, it would be wrong to construe section 32(1) as extending to public revenue, cheating. The section did not refer to fraud or conspiracy to defraud. The common law offence of cheating was narrower in ambit than the offence of conspiracy to defraud; and while Parliament might by inadvertence do that which it did not intend to do, it would be wrong to construe section 32(1) of the Theft Act in the way Mr Blom-Cooper submitted. That contention, too, must be rejected.

In *R v Bailey* (1956) NILR 15, Lord MacDermott, the Lord Chief Justice in Northern Ireland, had criticised the dictum of Mr Justice Lawrence in *R v Higgins* (1801) 2 East 53 [that all acts or attempts which tended to the prejudice of the community were indictable]. He said that if the dictum were taken at its face value, "not only would one wide field of the criminal law lose all its distinctive character, but the guilt or innocence of persons charged within it could, to an unwholesome degree, depend on the personal views or prejudices of those who presided at a tribunal appointed for their trial."

His Lordship's personal conviction was that that branch of the law which related to a criminal offence of agreement to do that which it was not a crime; and that its irrationality became apparent if it took the form of a legal argument of an historical research on appeal to the House to discover whether any crime had been committed even though the facts were undisputed. His Lordship welcomed the fact that such a reproach to our criminal jurisprudence was engaging the urgent attention of the Law Commission. Meanwhile the law must be administered as it was. He was glad to agree that the House was not compelled by previous authority to recognize the existence of a generalized offence of "conspiracy to effect a public mischief" which would hold the individuals of offence under count 1 disclosed an offence known to the common law. If what the appellants did ought to be made a crime it was for Parliament to legislate accordingly.

Blom-Cooper put forward three contentions: (1) that there could not be a conspiracy to defraud without deceit; (2) that the Theft Act 1968, had abolished with effect from January 1, 1969, the offence of conspiracy to defraud; and (3) that a charge of the common law offence of conspiracy to defraud would not lie in respect of a conspiracy to commit a summary offence. The House Mr Blom-Cooper put forward three contentions: (1) that there could not be a conspiracy to defraud without deceit; (2) that the Theft Act 1968, had abolished with effect from January 1, 1969, the offence of conspiracy to defraud; and (3) that a charge of the common law offence of conspiracy to defraud would not lie in respect of a conspiracy to commit a summary offence. The House Mr Blom-Cooper put forward three contentions: (1) that there could not be a conspiracy to defraud without deceit; (2) that the Theft Act 1968, had abolished with effect from January 1, 1969, the offence of conspiracy to defraud; and (3) that a charge of the common law offence of conspiracy to defraud would not lie in respect of a conspiracy to commit a summary offence.

The answer to (1) was in section 33 of the Theft Act, section 32, 1968, which provided that "Where an act or omission constitutes an offence under two or more Acts, or both under the same Act, a person may be charged with an offence under either of those Acts or as if he had committed both offences together. It shall be sufficient to charge him with one of the offences, and he may be convicted of either or both." The answer to (2) was in section 33 of the Theft Act, section 32, 1968, which provided that "Where an act or omission constitutes an offence under two or more Acts, or both under the same Act, a person may be charged with an offence under either of those Acts or as if he had committed both offences together. It shall be sufficient to charge him with one of the offences, and he may be convicted of either or both."

Lord Diplock, concurring, said that the authorities cited by Viscount Dilhorne and those cited in the contemporaneous appeal in *Scott v Metropolitan Police Commissioner* established three propositions: (1) That at common law no clear distinction was originally drawn between a distinct species of criminal agreement, "cheat" and "conspiracies to defraud"; (2) That the phrase "conspiracy to defraud" had by the early nineteenth century become a distinct species of criminal agreement. The abolition of the substantive common law offence of "cheating" by section 32(1)(a) of the Theft Act, except in regard to offences relating to the public revenue, thus left intact the common law offence of conspiracy to defraud.

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£9,200 for English silver penny of AD948

By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent
Glenfing's achieved a record price for an English silver penny yesterday at £9,200 but the secret of the high price was its Viking appeal. It was a coin dating from AD 948 of the Hiberno-Norse King of York, Eric Bloodaxe; Bloodaxe was the son of Harold Fair Hair, King of Norway and there was keen Scandinavian interest in the coin yesterday. It went to Ahlstrom, a Scandinavian dealer based in Geneva, and was underbid by Spinks on behalf of an Oslo museum. Sotheby's were selling modern British art. A Henry Moore bronze sculpture of a "Mother and Child", 14 inches high, reached £23,500 (estimate £15,000-£20,000). It was bought by James Kirman; the sculpture had reached through Sotheby's in 1971 at £13,500. Richard Attenborough, the actor and a keen collector of British art, paid £23,000 (estimate £20,000-£30,000) for a Henry Moore bronze "Seated Figure" of 1949, 17 inches high. An abstract painting by Ben Nicholson, Galleo, February, 1961 went to Basket and Day for £14,000 (estimate £10,000-£15,000). Prices generally fell below estimates though a few isolated items sold exceptionally well. Slickert's "Rauze House, Dieppe" made £5,000 (estimate £3,000-£12,000); Munnings' "Rose, Wildbird, Peggy and Stockings" made £3,000 (estimate £2,000-£12,000); the Lord's were on the market but Sidney Nolan's "Ned Kelly" made £3,000 (estimate £1,000-£2,000). The sale of Art Nouveau and Art Deco at Sotheby's Belgravia did not repeat last summer's high prices. There was little in the Bagatelle furniture but they achieved the highest English auction price on record for Galleo glass: "Rose de France" made £4,500 (estimate £2,500-£5,000). The first day of the Parke Bernet sale of the Stockhausen collection of English and American literature saw a first edition of Robert Herrick's "Hesperides" at \$9,000 (£3,846); estimate \$6,000-£12,000; Robert Burns's "Poems of 1786" at \$9,000 (£3,846); estimate \$6,000-£12,000; a first edition of Gray's "Elegy" at \$5,500 (£2,330); estimate \$2,500-£8,000. Christie's have continued their series of Geneva sales. Among the Fabergé and Russian works of art sold on Tuesday night there was a Fabergé purple sapphire set at 50,000 Swiss francs (£8,170); estimate 60,000 francs. The star piece was the square jewelled presentation snuff box, unsold at 100,000 francs; estimate 120,000 francs. In yesterday's sale an antique gold mouse automaton of about 1810 by Rose de France (£13,072); estimate 50,000 francs.

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CINEMAS

1. Sophie Loren, Jean Gabin... CINEMAS... 1. Sophie Loren, Jean Gabin...

2. The Marquis of Keith... CINEMAS... 2. The Marquis of Keith...

3. Irving Wardle... CINEMAS... 3. Irving Wardle...

4. Walter Klien stays with the piano... CINEMAS... 4. Walter Klien stays with the piano...

5. London debuts... CINEMAS... 5. London debuts...

6. Max Harrison... CINEMAS... 6. Max Harrison...

7. Alan Blyth... CINEMAS... 7. Alan Blyth...

8. Figaro in Hamburg... CINEMAS... 8. Figaro in Hamburg...

9. Bryce Morrison... CINEMAS... 9. Bryce Morrison...

10. Alan Blyth... CINEMAS... 10. Alan Blyth...

11. Alan Blyth... CINEMAS... 11. Alan Blyth...

THE ARTS

Highland Home Industries... THE ARTS... Highland Home Industries...

Art Exhibitions... THE ARTS... Art Exhibitions...

Art Exhibitions... THE ARTS... Art Exhibitions...

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Photograph by Donald Cooper

Sara Kestelman and Ian McKellen

The Marquis of Keith Aldwych... THE ARTS... The Marquis of Keith Aldwych...

Irving Wardle... THE ARTS... Irving Wardle...

Walter Klien stays with the piano... THE ARTS... Walter Klien stays with the piano...

London debuts... THE ARTS... London debuts...

Max Harrison... THE ARTS... Max Harrison...

Alan Blyth... THE ARTS... Alan Blyth...

Figaro in Hamburg... THE ARTS... Figaro in Hamburg...

Bryce Morrison... THE ARTS... Bryce Morrison...

Alan Blyth... THE ARTS... Alan Blyth...

Alan Blyth... THE ARTS... Alan Blyth...

Alan Blyth... THE ARTS... Alan Blyth...

See what you are missing

Yankee Treble-Rhoda BBC2 Alan Coren

I struck gold on Tuesday. And as all followers of Brennan know, gold is invariably struck against the odds. There could not be a chance that was no longer a chance that was not only a situation comedy, it is a spin-off of a situation comedy: The Dick Van Dyke Show began The Mary Tyler Moore Show and The Mary Tyler Moore Show began The Mary Tyler Moore Show...

The joy of it all is that none of it matters. The quality of the script and the brilliance of the acting... The joy of it all is that none of it matters. The quality of the script and the brilliance of the acting...

Yes, of course it loses something when it is written down. It loses snap-and-precision, it loses the inimitable Broock accent, it loses the expression of two very funny women... Yes, of course it loses something when it is written down. It loses snap-and-precision, it loses the inimitable Broock accent, it loses the expression of two very funny women...

aspect was treated with less care in the straggling chords of the slow movement, and their phrasing was also sometimes awry. In general, Mr Weller has a sense of the music in the concert's predominant faster sections.

When he reached Dvořák's eighth symphony in the second half, Mr Weller played up the quick music in a less acceptable manner. Without the soaps of centripetal knitting that Bartók provides, my ear zig-zagged through the brisk variations of the finale, for instance, at a furious speed. Even this movement's calm passages were suffused with expectant tension; there was little of Dvořák's essential calmness and serenity.

Indeed, the waggles and longings of the slow movement were worthy of the last movement of Dvořák's world. If all else fails in this composer, there are always the tunes, but those too were spoiled by the LSO's fluttery flures.

Like most South American composers, Alberto Ginastera (born 1916) began as a nationalist. The hammering rhythms of the quick movements in his String Quartet No 1 Op 20 of 1948 show him thoroughly occupied with the Argentine gaucho tradition. However, quite apart from the problems, in his first movement, of receding peasant material with soot-form, the European listener is too insistently reminded of Bartók's Fourth Quartet, Bartók with the personal vision and much of the temperamental drive removed. Ginastera's gritty reflective slow movement is more individual, though.

His Quartet No 2 Op 26 (1958, revised 1968) is said to mark a turning away from nationalism, but the movement headings (rustico, angoscioso, magico, rapsodico and furioso) protest too much. Here the models seem to be Bartók's Fifth Quartet, and, in the second movement, Berg's Lyric Suite. The detail is more varied; yet Ginastera's No 2 offers mainly an intensification of the same tendencies as his First Quartet. The soliloquizing start and finish to the Adagio angoscioso are the finest passages, and there is an interesting use of quarter-tones in the Libero e rapsodico.

The Quartet No 3 Op 40 of 1973 does get away from folk material, with more rarefied textures, and one would like to think the result more personal. Four of the five movements are settings of poems by Jiménez, Lorca and Alberti for which a soprano is added; the Amoroso Lorca piece is pleasingly astringent, but otherwise the effect is unduly static, like exercises in recidive string writing instead of essays in self-expression. This work had its European premiere from the Philadelphia Quartet in one of those rare self-sacrificing debut concerts which draw attention to music, not performers. Here, as in Quartets Nos 1 and 2, their playing was efficient, if a little dry in tone.

December 8. The cast includes Bernd Weikl (Count), Justino Diaz (Figaro), Nancy Shade (Cousness) and Jutta-Renate Hlooff (Susanna). Gary Bertini is the conductor.

Some of the notices on this page are reprinted from yesterday's later editions.

See what you are missing... Yankee Treble-Rhoda BBC2 Alan Coren... I struck gold on Tuesday. And as all followers of Brennan know, gold is invariably struck against the odds. There could not be a chance that was no longer a chance that was not only a situation comedy, it is a spin-off of a situation comedy: The Dick Van Dyke Show began The Mary Tyler Moore Show and The Mary Tyler Moore Show began The Mary Tyler Moore Show...

Some of the notices on this page are reprinted from yesterday's later editions.

Football

Revie told how hard the going can be

By Geoffrey Green Football Correspondent

Football 9 Football 10 If a rose is a rose is a rose is a rose...

Thomas and Clarke make claims for a goal that the referee refused.

must lie squarely with the midfield men. Francis, Brooking and Todd...

European ban has Liverpool puzzled By Norman Fox Liverpool's football club are to...

Rugby Union Still some cheer in a fallen cup

By Peter West Rugby Correspondent

Several weeks ago, a prolonged search for a new cup for the Rugby Union...

An Irish wind blows Irish no good

From an Irish Rugby Correspondent

From an Irish Rugby Correspondent Galway, Nov 20 Connacht 3 New Zealanders 25...

West Germans save the day against Greece

Athens, Nov 20 - West Germany, the World Cup holders...

Wales score best victory against any foreign side

By a Special Correspondent Luxembourg 0 Wales 5...

Scotland colourless in rags, Spain colourless in patches

By John Downie Scotland 1 Spain 2

Long before that, however, the Scots had lost their early edge. Bremner's passes were of variable quality...

Wales score best victory against any foreign side

By a Special Correspondent Luxembourg 0 Wales 5

A win that puts Springboks on road to Toulouse

Clermont-Ferrand, Nov 20 Central France 16 South Africa 29

Berkshire warm up too late in arctic Banbury

By Peter Marston Berkshire 14 Oxfordshire 3

POOL PROMOTERS ASSOCIATION CERTIFIED PPA DIVIDENDS FOR MATCHES PLAYED NOVEMBER 9th, 1974

LITTLEWOODS POOLS, LIVERPOOL UP AND UP GOES THE PAYOUT £906,769

VERNONS POOLS, LIVERPOOL THE ONLY 6 DIVIDEND TREBLE CHANCE

Republic of Ireland survive

Turkey 1 Rep of Ireland 1

European results and tables

Table with columns for Group One, Group Two, Group Four, Group Five, Group Six, Group Seven, Group Eight, Group Nine, Group Ten, Group Eleven, Group Twelve.

European championship

Table with columns for Group One, Group Two, Group Four, Group Five, Group Six, Group Seven, Group Eight, Group Nine, Group Ten, Group Eleven, Group Twelve.

Deacons up to their ankles in semolina pudding

By Alan Gibbick Dorset and Wiltshire 7

It was a fine, cold game of rugby, governed by a wind which the Wiltshire club had worked hard to allow the game to be played at all...

Today's fixtures

Table listing fixtures for Southern League, Northern League, and other regional leagues.



Alan Sillitoe: intelligent insights... camp owner visited by once-destitute, now rich and fashionable painter, Albert Handley...

The Abbess of Crewe By Muriel Spark (Macmillan, £2) The Flame of Life By Alan Sillitoe (W. H. Allen, £2.95) At the Abbey of Crewe all is vanity. And intrigue, back-biting and eavesdropping...

Nourished in dark soil Samuel Johnson By John Wain (Macmillan, £4.95) John Wain is 49, with more than 25 years of fiction, poetry, criticism and teaching behind him...

Now 21 weeks on the bestseller lists LE CARRE Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy 'It is a triumph' Daily Mail

The 16th Annual W. H. Smith £1000 LITERARY AWARD just won by ANTHONY POWELL for his novel TEMPORARY KINGS

The Wolfson Literary Award for History has been awarded to Dr. Theodore Zeldin for his book France 1848-1945 - Volume One: Ambition, Love and Politics

Oxford University Press From the author of The Golden Notebook, Children of Violence and The Summer Before The Dark DORIS LESSING THE MEMOIRS OF A SURVIVOR

Prime sources Knaves, Fools and Heroes in Europe between the Wars By Sir John Wheeler-Bennett (Macmillan, £3.95) Sir John Wheeler-Bennett sums himself up with characteristic accuracy...

Science fiction Flow My Tears, The Policeman Said By Philip K. Dick (Gollancz, £2.20) Jason Taverner, television celebrity in a baywira world where the cops are too often the robbers...

FOYLES ART GALLERY AN EXHIBITION OF Macramé BY KIT PYMAN 9-6 DAILY UNTIL 4 DEC. 299-125 CHARING CROSS RD. LONDON WC2A

Essentials of India An Indian Journey By James Cameron (Macmillan, £3.50) India is 10 million things the books fail to mention: the quotation is from James Cameron, writing in another place...

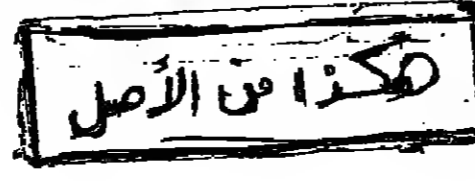
The roll call of loss The English Country House By Olive Cook (Thames & Hudson, £4.50) Photographs by A. F. Kersting (Thames & Hudson, £4.50) The Destruction of the Country House By Roy Strong, Marcus Binney, John Harris (Thames & Hudson, £4.95, paper book, £2.50)

Books for Christmas: next Thursday eight pages of reviews including David Piper on art, Sheridan Morley on showbiz, Christian Bonington on mountaineering...

'Terrifically exciting' Ronald Blythe, Sunday Times BERKELY MATHER THE WHITE DACOIT Berkely Mather blends adventure, humour and pathos into his best novel yet - a colourful picaresque in Kipling country. £2.75 COLLINS

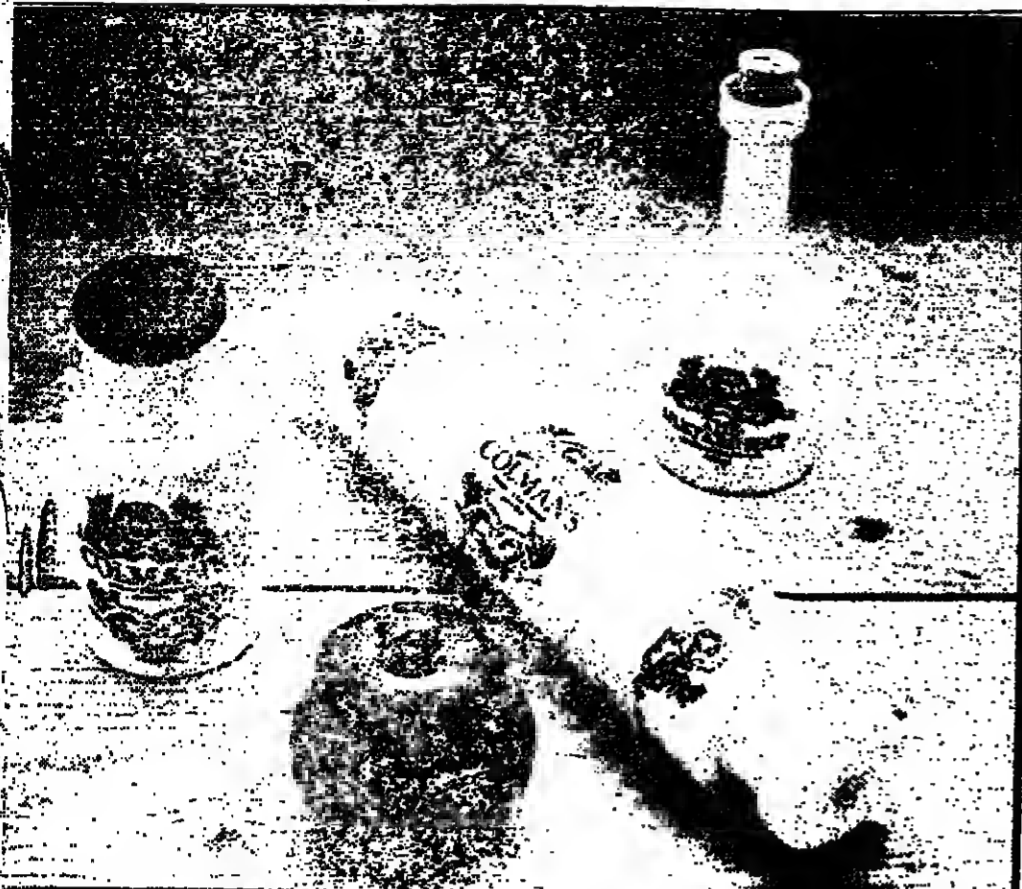
HISTORICAL MEMOIR OF THE DUC DE SAINT-SIMON VOLUME I, II and III in PAPERBACK edited and translated by LUCY NORTON each volume £2.25 boxed set £6.75

'The most accomplished biographer of our day' This is how William Haley described Andrew Boyle in the Times when reviewing his biography of Brendan Bracken...



Shopping around

Sheila Black



Man's Mustard Shop, opened in Norwich last year to celebrate the brand's 50th birthday, is getting a mail order service into gear and opening a catalogue which ought to be ready out a fortnight.

The mustard merchandise is really attractive. In the photograph is a kind of oil-white, in a ironstone with dark brown top and bottom and a kind of Victorian design. The old English, French, Dijon, American-style, and an-style, and cream salad mustards as well

as the famous old Savona mustard. Each holds 8 ounces and costs 75p. There is also a bag of bath mustard at 35p—decorated in green on a yellow ground. Aprons, linen or PVC coated, are £1.51 or £1.78 plus VAT (food products are zero-rated but these carry 8 per cent). A tea towel and a chopping board are 59p and 97p, while a dark blue mustard pot (shown here) is 72p plus VAT. The address is The Mustard Shop, 2 Bredwell Alley, Norwich, Norfolk. Telephone Norwich 27889.



whisky (90p plus 10p postage). The Crabtree and Evelyn jars, bottles and boxes are in a good many larger chemists, gift shops and fancy goods shops or department stores, but Jackson's sell them by mail. The bottle and label design are as fascinating as ever, so that these make very unusual gifts—the fragrances are so different that they intrigue. Harrods have a good display of these—honey water, elderflower water, and lavender water with a really old fashioned scent are £1.72 each. Nice for sprinkling or after-shave (find them in the men's department and give them to men or women). Harrods will also post, of course, but check postage costs which vary according to the parcel.

Hungary water is another Crabtree and Evelyn revival, now at most leading department stores. Invented by a fourteenth-century Hungarian queen, they tell me, who was still being proposed to when she was 76. This has the usual Crabtree and Evelyn refreshing qualities, plus an elusive fragrance which makes it either an eau de toilette or, for avant-garde men, an expensive aftershave. It costs £2.50 for a jar-shaped bottle, in a sort of cigar carton, and Jackson's will post it for an extra 24p. Elizabethan tubs of soap are £1.97 plus 25p. Galico sacks of soap are 75p plus 10p.

Jackson's broadsheet of gift ideas comes from the shop at 171 Piccadilly, London, W1 (please send a large sae), but personal shoppers will find it there and at 6A/6B Sloane Street, London, SW1.

For Crabtree and Evelyn's other stockists, write to them at 38, Savile Row, London, W1.



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Normal double bedsize eiderdown will easily convert into a duvet or make two single beds. Savings are roughly those of shop prices—quite a saving for ever. If you've got an old eiderdown, we also make Britain's widest range of home-sown duvets. Full instructions are available with a 25-year duvet guarantee. We will send details and to anyone who writes to 1279, Acornes Ltd., 92, Road, Mitcham, Surrey, they have even installed a answering service so you can telephone them on 1113 anytime, day or night.

Sodastream has long been a functional product, designed like a piece of engineering, utterly reliable but inelegant. Now, under the Kowood-Thorn aegis, it has been redesigned to compactness and greater elegance with all the old reliability retained. It makes fizzy drinks and mixes for adult concoctions, like ginger ale, tonic, bitter lemon, lime, etc. And it makes rather more childish fancies such as cola, lemonade, appleade and so on. The basic job of making pure soda is all you have to undertake, converting that clear liquid by means of added carbonates.

Each cylinder copes with anything from 80 to 100 bottles containing 8 fluid ounces of fizz. The variation results from the user's ability to carbonate at three levels—fizzy, fairly fizzy and very fizzy. When out of use, the binged bottle-holder lies flat in the main body of the unit.

You screw the cylinder into Sodastream's main body; then feed the bottle into the hinged front of the body, pull the lever; and there is your drink, ready for immediate consumption or mixing. You can buy extra bottles and build up an advance stock, since screw caps hold the effervescence. This is rather more useful, in that way, than the refillable soda siphons which so often have to be dealt with during the party, despite the fact that you can get double-sized siphons.

Each bottle costs about half, or rather less than, standard prices for the ready-bottled equivalents. But—and it is quite a but—the basic equipment is £17.52, although I have seen that discounted here and there. If your household consumes fizzy drinks galore, this cost is fairly rapidly amortized. The pack includes the gas cylinder (which costs £4.59) but that cylinder can be subsequently recharged at any Sodastream stockist for 86p.

There are three sample bottles of concentrate in the basic pack plus three empty bottles and the gas cylinder. Four colour leaflets and the name of your nearest stockist, write to T.D.A. (Electrical) of New Lane, Havant, Hants. Do not be confused by the company's name—Sodastream is not electrical, but the majority of Thorn's products in this division are.

Robert Jackson's News Sheet is ready. A broadsheet of gift lines, with large clear illustrations, it gives some good ideas for buying by post. Rather sweet are chocolate piglets with huge bows and toppers, or ladies' shoes also tied with a bow (respectively 45p and 55p). Jackson's own starred gift is Moutarde de Meaux, which my daughter uses for mixing in salad dressings that have made her salads famous. The mustard seeds and the subtly hot and spicy but creamy mustard are excellent on dressings and in many sauces as well as serving traditionally as mustard. Sold

in chunky, squat jars of off-white stoneware, with sealed red tops and wide corks, these last for ages and cost £1.15 plus 42p postage—the postage costs nearly as much as some of the goods these days.

Pretty and inexpensive plates are at Jackson's—try Wedgwood's blue or brown quat, or Mason's green fruit basket (65p and 60p for the 10 1/2 sizes). Herbs, cake candles, pomanders, and those lovely big whisky flasks, in rich dark blue pottery. They hold a bottle of seven year old whisky and cost £6.50. A smaller gimmick is the golf ball filled with

The Owl and the Pussycat (11 Flask Walk, Hampstead Village, London, NW3) and its associate shop, Where the Wild Things Are (9 Mortlake Terrace, Kew, Surrey) have their usual display of attractive toys. They sell by post (phone 01-435 5342 or 01-940 8223 for information). Among their toys is this Reeves land yacht kit at the pleasantly surprising price of 98p (15p postage). After building it, children love to experiment with it. Another experimental toy at 95p plus 15p comprises a number of magnets of different shapes, a delight to children and a change from the familiar horseshoe shape.



A bath Boat kit, 98p again plus 15p, can be built by the really young and then becomes a bath-time experiment, being less a boat than a manoeuvrable floating device.

I like, too, Combits. A box of 20 blocks pack into the box. Angles and cubes combine to give bright colour and a large number of building combinations—a computer reckoned nearly 1,200,000 combinations but children do not use computers. Robust, elegant and fun, Combits are £3.36 plus 40p.

Two little plastic shapes hang on to a long string which can be hung from a picture rail. Pull the strings taut to make the shapes climb—based on a favourite Victorian toy, it costs £1.11 plus 10p. Tiny little teddies in pink and blue are wedged together, can be chewed screwed up and boiled clean—£1.70 plus 8p.



Vegetables get star billing in my favourite seed catalogue by Thompson and Morgan because it is back to the land for anyone who has so much as a roof terrace. This year, the T and M catalogue has cooking hints by the Cradocks, a list of various vegetables and clear growing notes. There is a good section on shrubs and trees to grow from seed. Thompson and Morgan is at Crane Hall, London Road, Ipswich, Suffolk and they have unusual flowers as well as vegetables.

Amateur vegetable gardeners

and enthusiastic vegetable cooks who also want to preserve or pickle should be reminded of the excellent *Country Housewife's Handbook*, regularly updated by the West Kent Federation of Women's Institutes and a real encyclopaedia of country lore with some unusual recipes. A good stocking filler, this. The new edition, also, has gone up to 50p plus 12p postage but it still represents great value for would-be Mrs Beeton of the seventies. The address is West Kent Federation of WI, 84 College Road, Maidstone, Kent.



One of the most useful garden "tools" I have ever had, for indoors or outdoors, is the Carry-all. This is a flat sheet of hessian or polypropylene, 6 feet square, with a handle at each corner. Drop all the refuse on it, pick it up by the corners and dump the contents in a compost or on a bonfire. It costs £3.35 or £2.20, with smaller sizes for indoors or smaller gardens, plastic covered, at £2.60 for 4 feet square. This, plus other useful smaller garden accessories and one or two household odds and ends, come in a little catalogue from Carall House, 4, Urbridge Street, London, W8.

World of Flowers, which does such a good mail order service for flowers, is doing cuttings for miniature orange trees; hibiscus; indoor-growing bay trees, etc.—£1.60, £1.50, and £1.80 respectively. Amaryllis bulbs and bougainvillea will also appear at £1.80 and £1.60 respectively. The bougainvillea rooted cutting comes with pot, soil and instructions, all prices include delivery, and last orders for Christmas must be in by December 15. The address for leader is World of Flowers, Garnick House, Cloos Lane, Clacton-on-Sea, Essex. Chinchuriches are £1.20 for 30 stems and reasonable at that price. Young house plants are £2 the pack of seven including abutilons.

If you are not sending Christmas cards, and thousands are not, you might like quaint postcards. A series featuring the original drawings of Randolph Caldecott are well reproduced and printed in those washed-out colours featuring, for the most part, nursery rhymes, extracts from old ballads and the like. Produced by Hunksyond Designs, 10 Ansdell Street, London, W8, who could help with stockists' names.

You can also buy them by mail in packets of 24 for 98p plus 10p postage from Owl and the Pussycat, 11 Flask Walk, Hampstead Village, London, NW3.



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a Special Report on the first six months of M Valéry Giscard d'Estaing's presidency

FRANCE



exact
exact, the
question

May M Jacques Chirac became at the age of 42 one of the youngest Prime Ministers France has ever had, after a political career which began in 1967 as the trusted assistant of M Pompidou, and then Prime Minister. In the following seven years M Chirac (below) was a member of successive governments and distinguished himself by his energy, and his drive. After the election of M Giscard d'Estaing as President, to which he had made a major contribution by opposing M Delmas's candidature, he was given the challenging task of heading a new government of change and reform and of shaking a Gaullist party seriously shaken by the loss of its former monopoly of

the part of the French people. M Giscard d'Estaing benefited from a political dynamism peculiar to himself, that of representing change in continuity: change because he was always considered as on the verge of the traditional Gaullist majority; and continuity because his political career began in 1958, and he had belonged to almost all governments of the Fifth Republic.

"He also appeared as the man who could most easily carry out this broadening of the new presidential majority. This was undoubtedly necessary to the extent that it was essential to bring together all Frenchmen who contested the choice of society represented by the common programme of the left."

aspirations, to bring into question acquired rights raises difficult political and psychological problems.

"I am convinced that true popularity for a statesman begins always with a spell of unpopularity. But one must continue on this road. In any case it is the intention of the President and therefore of the Government. Fluctuations of popularity do not matter. We have time on our side. We are a long way from elections and must therefore make the best of it."

I remarked that there had been much talk last May about the "end of the UDR (Gaullist) state". M Chirac replied that the expression had no significance. When M Servan-Schreiber had introduced this striking slogan, he hit the target psychologically, as was the case with many irrational arguments. However, "the vocation of Gaullism in this new majority is an essential vocation. It is so on the parliamentary plane, because the Gaullists are a majority of this new majority. But it is also without a doubt the case politically because the Gaullist deputies are those who, by their origins and by vocation, are most conscious of the nature and the demands of our institutions."

"They are the most resolutely opposed to the domination of parties and of Parliament, and when the President wishes to emphasize the presidential aspect of the constitution of 1958—that is to turn his back firmly on the errors of the Fourth Republic—one sees that the support of a party fundamentally inspired by these principles is quite essential to him. So the role of Gaullism is above all to uphold the spirit of our institutions and inspire the policy of the Government by maintaining the objectives of dignity at home and abroad: dignity of man, dignity of the nation. So Gaullism has a fundamental part to play in the future of the presidential majority."

It was essential in a modern democracy that relations between majority and opposition should be marked by fair play to avoid a process of permanent aggressiveness, which led to deadlocks in society. "This is obviously difficult, especially when positions are as clear cut as they are in France, since they

involve opposition on the very nature of Society, and the role of man in Society.

"So we have initiated a policy of better relations with the opposition. The President has received personalities of the opposition and I have received the leaders of parliamentary groups of the opposition and we do so again. But the nature of the opposition makes these contacts difficult. It is not a reason not to have them. On the human plane and on that of cordiality, they have been very satisfactory. But as things stand, these contacts are not yet very productive. I hope we can improve them."

The Government had been in power five months, and the election of the presidential majority had given way to a certain moroseness, I said.

It was natural, M Chirac replied, that the euphoria had ceased. It was bound up with the passing phenomenon of the elections. But also "we have entered a period of serious economic difficulties which provoke a certain public opinion, which explains a certain moroseness."

"You say the Government is accused of acting with a certain light-heartedness. It is not light-heartedness to have carried out the reforms already under way. Like lowering the voting age to 18. When Parliament is called upon to examine the Budget, one will not be justified in speaking of light-heartedness. That being so, a government must always be criticized. It is criticized today for its casualness. In June it was criticized for measures that were said would lead to the final ruin of medium and small firms."

in wage inflation. This is entirely without foundation. Wage increases in the private sector have been at least as great if not higher than in the public sector."

On foreign policy, I asked M Chirac whether, contrary to what M Giscard d'Estaing had insisted, it was not possible to get the European Economic and Monetary Union going again in the context of the monetary crisis, and of the lack of coordination of anti-inflationary policies of member states.

It was difficult, he replied, but it was impossible to do otherwise. One wanted to create a united Europe. "One should not have one's nose on the obstacle, but rather take a longer view. One should avoid reasoning like accountants, and reason like economists."

France had proposed at a recent meeting of finance ministers of the Community the floating of a loan, which had a more symbolic than effective character but was very important politically; a more realistic definition of the European unit of account; and measures to bring closer together currencies which were still outside the "soak".

"It is no use meditating exclusively on institutional problems without a real determination to make progress in concrete fields like the energy policy, economic and monetary policy, regional policy and others," M Chirac emphasized.

The French decision to accept the stockpiling of the Common Agricultural Policy demanded by Germany did not involve any change in the Government's attitude.

"We have always considered that the CAP formed a whole and that there could be no question of each member country drawing up a kind of statement of the advantages and drawbacks to itself of this policy."

"But we were always in favour of the Commission making an overall examination of the CAP, to determine what its prospects were and, possibly, what evolutions might be necessary in its practical application. I do not see why we should have objected to this examination, because the CAP has evolved—and I find this quite natural—to the detriment of France essentially. If we had sold our sugar and our cereals at in-

ternational prices, we should have earned an additional 3,000 million worth of units of account. If we draw up a balance-sheet of the advantages we have obtained in meat and milk, which are very modest, or through the Feoga (farm fund), they are nothing compared to what we have lost."

"You will tell me that in the past there were situations which were the reverse. That is why we think there is no objection to the stockpiling. But it cannot be carried out on a country by country basis. We consider the CAP is an important step towards the rationalization of agriculture and the creation of a real European agricultural economy. That is the reason why, whatever the outcome of the stockpiling, we cannot accept a renegotiation or revision of the CAP."

"On the whole, taking all the Community mechanisms into account, Britain is undoubtedly a beneficiary of the CAP. It is therefore a bad quarrel, and I think the British Government should clearly inform public opinion of the truth of the matter; and should not keep up this permanent illusion that because it might have some impact on the price of lamb, the CAP is in itself something bad for British interests—which is wrong."

On the oil crisis, and the refusal of France to join the Group of Twelve set up in Washington last January, M Chirac said the Government had taken the stand that the solution of the oil problem was not to be found in a confrontation between oil consumers and oil-producing countries, but through an agreement and cooperation between the two.

"The increase in oil prices is not an aberration. It is even, I would say, understandable, but it was too sudden, excessively rapid, and not sufficiently concerted."

The system set up by the Group of Twelve—that is to say, by the Americans—seemed to the French Government dangerous in its consequences. That was why France had not wished to be associated with it. But she was ready to take part in any discussions which would make it possible to speak with the oil producers and other big consumers. Recently Sheikh Yamani, the Saudi Arabian Minister for Oil, had put forward a suggestion for a meeting of producers and consumers, including India and Brazil, which was certainly positive. This is the type of procedure to which one should turn, much more than to aggressive ones. That is our feeling today. Naturally things can evolve; France is realistic and will adapt her policy to the evolutions of the situation."

It was essential for the European Community to have a common approach to the oil problem. "It is quite illusory to speak continually about the construction of Europe, to make great speeches about the need for a united Europe, and to oppose, in a field as essential as this to the life of Europe, a real definition of an energy policy for this Europe, before all other international commitment."

The communists accused the Government of having abandoned the former policy of independence in its relations with the United States. Had this policy changed, I asked. The communists accused the Government of everything, Mr Chirac said, and the very excess of their criticism made it vain. "Relations between France and the United States have perhaps undergone some changes of form and not only because the type of diplomacy pursued by M Sauvagnargues is perhaps a bit different from the type favoured by M Jobert," he went on.

"In substance, we are still true allies of the United States, but demanding with regard to our independence. There had been a 'loosening up', to use the Foreign Minister's term, of relations with the United States, in matters of form, and this was desirable.

The Prime Minister did not think the world economic crisis would lead to renewed pressure for a cutting down of American troops in Europe, "because their presence is an essential element of American defence, and the fundamental interest of the United States is to maintain these forces in Europe."

This should not affect the determination of Europe to pursue its own defence effort. France, for her part, participated seriously in it. She had a defence organization which was independent, but active and substantial. The creation of a European defence force, however, was premature.

Although M Chirac does not like them, I ventured a personal question. I asked whether his experience of five months at the head of the Government had been an enriching experience, very different from that of specialized departments of state such as he had had before.

"It is certainly an enriching and testing experience in the present political context on account of the difficulties arising from the trauma suffered by the biggest party of the government majority after the presidential elections. That being so, I do not know whether this has changed my character. I do not know if this has soured it, and I am the last person to express a judgment on this point."

Charles Hargrove

Another kind of society

French history showed that every 15 or 18 years there was a change of regime. "This time we had the luck not to change the regime, to maintain the fundamental options which were ours, and this thanks to M Giscard d'Estaing. In this respect the present majority, Gaullist or non-Gaullist, owes him a great deal, for without him M Mitterrand would have been elected, and then it would have meant another kind of society."

It was not peculiar to Frenchmen that their permanent desire for change very quickly reached its limit. "This does not mean that it is not part of the mission of a government conscious of its responsibilities to carry out the necessary changes to adapt the structures of society to what are regarded as the choices necessary for the future, so that we find ourselves at present in a situation which in some respects is not easy and which consists in really carrying out this change, while a major part of the population is not so anxious to see it come about."

"Change conflicts necessarily with a fundamental notion of acquired rights. But in a society where security is rightly one of the essential

Call to mobilize public opinion

In September it was criticized for taking inadequate steps to check inflation and was called upon to mobilize public opinion by imposing greater sacrifices on the nation. "In October we are accused of acting without foresight and of sparking off unemployment. These criticisms are, as always, excessive. We have a tough task, of defending employment at the same time and as we conduct a systematic policy of fighting inflation and restoring our balance of payments."

The Prime Minister admitted that the desire to maintain the present high level of employment limited the Government's room for manoeuvre over inflation. "It is true one cannot pursue a policy of restoring the balance of payments, with the restraints this involves in the field of credit, of the budget, of prices, and therefore of industry, without its affecting employment."

"And the challenge we try to meet, a country which never could tolerate unemployment, less than any other, is precisely to try to maintain an employment position which is acceptable, while pursuing the objectives we set ourselves: that is to say, to achieve by mid-1975 a rise in prices comparable to our German neighbour's and at the end of the year a restoration of the balance of payments."

"We appear to be progressing towards this goal. By the end of the year we shall have reduced the rise in prices to what was foreseen for this deadline. That is to say, a little over 1 per cent a month. And the trade balance for September was extremely positive, about half what we could have feared."

To the objection that the Government, in its struggle against inflation, seemed to prefer a policy of persuasion to one of controls, the Prime Minister replied that this was not at all the feeling of business and industry. Company taxes had been increased. Credit restrictions were very strict. The budget was balanced and its increase was lower than the expected gross domestic product next year, so that it did not create any additional inflationary pressures. Finally, a drastic policy of price controls had been introduced which would make itself felt in coming months.

Although the unions howled when one mentioned it, the over-rapid increase in wages played an important part in present inflationary pressures. It did not spell any real advantage for the workers. It was therefore absolutely necessary—and this was more a matter for persuasion than compulsion—to ensure that wages did not continue to progress as fast as they did now.

The anti-inflation tax was not, as the unions claimed, a brake on wage increases. "In present circumstances, nothing prevents firms from granting unreasonable wage increases. At their congress in Lille, employers' representatives claimed that the Government had led the way

in wage inflation. This is entirely without foundation. Wage increases in the private sector have been at least as great if not higher than in the public sector."

On foreign policy, I asked M Chirac whether, contrary to what M Giscard d'Estaing had insisted, it was not possible to get the European Economic and Monetary Union going again in the context of the monetary crisis, and of the lack of coordination of anti-inflationary policies of member states.

It was difficult, he replied, but it was impossible to do otherwise. One wanted to create a united Europe. "One should not have one's nose on the obstacle, but rather take a longer view. One should avoid reasoning like accountants, and reason like economists."

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In an exclusive interview, M Jacques Chirac, 42, said he was not sure it was a turning point in the political history of the Republic. "One should seek of a turning point whenever something happens which speaks of a turning point," he said. "This would tend to demonstrate that history is a kind of permanent spiral. I am not sure it is a good image to qualify the evolution of a society."

"What is true is that the election of M Giscard d'Estaing marked, without a doubt, a certain desire for change, largely irrational, on

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- Railway solid wheels and forged axles
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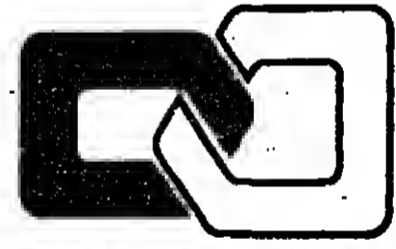
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A clamour for change—but not revolution

by Charles Hargrove

"From this day begins a new era of French political life," M Giscard d'Estaing declared in his inaugural address on May 27 at the Elysée Palace. Shortly afterwards he walked up the Champs Elysées to lay a wreath on the tomb of the unknown soldier, a sign of the new times his election had ushered in for France.

Under President Pompidou it was common to speak of the Fifth Republic, under President Giscard d'Estaing, one is justified in speaking of the Sixth Republic. The keywords of the former's term of office were continuity and change; the latter's is simply change. True, the regime set up by General de Gaulle in 1958 has not been overturned, contrary to the old French tradition which limited the life of successive presidents to five years. As M Chirac points out in his interview, it has been substantially transformed, however, with the coming to power of the youngest French President since Louis Napoleon in 1848.

"You will be surprised," he said on the night of the election, "by the scope and the speed of the change we shall introduce in France." And in his message to Parliament he said simply: "France wants to become different."

In this respect, the election campaign was for him a revolution in itself. It had brought him closer to the aspirations, the hopes and the dreams of the ordinary Frenchman and woman than he had ever been through any rapid, brilliant and somewhat seltzered political career. It was to this he referred when in that same inaugural address he said: "I listen and I hear a great clamour of the French people who asked us to introduce change. We shall bring about this change."

But there was another reason why M Giscard d'Estaing struck this keynote of change from the very moment he took office. He was elected with fewer than 500,000 votes more than M Mitterrand, the candidate of the left, a margin of less than 1 per cent. Never had the opposition parties come so close to obtaining power.

The new President never allows himself to forget this, even if a substantial section of his supporters for whom he was not the candidate of change but the bulwark against the communists, are inclined to forget it. Now their moment of alarm is over. The Government is liberal because it wants change. The country also wants it and would bring it about in any case. If we did not, others would, in confusion and by compulsion," he said.

The purpose of the change was to bring about a "society which is more just, more human, more fraternal." M Giscard d'Estaing sensed during the presidential campaign that the traditional France—the France of the provinces, solid, fundamentally conservative and ordered, that France to which President Pompidou always appealed over and beyond the turbulent, critical, questioning France of the intellectuals, and the Paris Salons—this France wanted change, but it did not want a revolution.

The Pompidouian ambition mined to push ahead the industrial power no longer satisfied. Prosperity and progress had by-passed many of the Frenchmen hanging to their traditional France. They craved more justice, more equality, more emphasis on the quality of life than on the pursuit of economic growth.

France in its overwhelming majority, including a very large part of the voters who backed M Mitterrand, wanted reform but not revolution. It is precisely because it is considered, as opinion polls have since shown, that the communists are an longer revolutionary, that the new President's success did last May.

To drive home this fact that a new era had dawned in French politics and that things would not simply lapse back into the same old patterns, the new President broke sharply with many established republican practices. He simplified the pompous presidential protocol, refused to wear the traditional white tie and medals of the Legion of Honour. He told members of Parliament to remain seated while the presidential address was read and he went to the theatre or the cinema with his family when he felt like it.

It was what he called "giving the republic a bit of a dust over the top." The republic must be very close to the realities of the times we live in without destroying historical tradition.

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somehow seems to be confirmed in detached optimism that France, in spite of difficulties, will pull through, and that "there has, as he said last month, no cause to drum up matters."

Politically, he draws his confidence from the fact that the Government has time on its side. Parliamentary elections are not due for nearly four years, bearing a disquieting prospect, especially if the new presidential majority, enlarged one step further to include the reformers of M Giscard d'Estaing and M Servan-Schreiber, is even more comfortable than President Pompidou's, though it is less coherent and disciplined.

Its backbone, and this is the paradox of the situation, remains the 180-strong Gaullist Party. It has been searching for its soul ever since it lost the presidency, and was forced to accept as Prime Minister a man from its own ranks whom it is inclined to regard as a renegade. Its mood is understandably perplexed, despondent and disgruntled. So long as there was a threat that M Giscard d'Estaing might call new elections in the spring in order to produce a parliamentary majority more in line with the presidential one which elected him, its instinct was to close ranks behind him, for it knew that it would take a beating at the polls.

M Chirac was successful last summer in asserting his control over the party, to escape the spectre of elections being passed, simply because should they take place between now and next summer, the Government is not at all sure of winning them, and might be fighting against the President and the Government has resumed.

It was significant in the first weeks of the parliamentary session that, over constitutional matters, a handful of Gaullists voted regularly with the opposition.

When M Giscard d'Estaing was elected, political observers all agreed that this was the end, not of the Fifth Republic, though it is being imperceptibly "softened up" by the UDR state, but of what M Servan-Schreiber called the "old machinery of government and administration for 15 years by the Gaullist party."

Whether he likes it or not, however, since elections are not for tomorrow, the President must govern with the support of the Gaullist Party. This means that he cannot, in his desire for change, do anything which undermines, or appears to undermine, some of the basic principles of Gaullist doctrine, like national independence, the independent nuclear deterrent, the institutions of the Fifth Republic established by its founder. He is being watched at every turn by the Gaullist guardians of the party's soul.

M Giscard d'Estaing said during the election that "France wishes to be governed from the centre." His ambition is to create a great centre party that would take over from the Gaullists the

role of the majority and would incorporate the section of the Gaullists who feel it is better to adjust the rigidity of one's principles to the requirements of remaining part of the Government majority and throw an unbreakable rump of diehards out on to the right. It would also attempt to coax those socialists who had tired of the alliance with the communists.

But there is no indication that these hopes have any real political consistency in actual fact and for the immediate future. The centre will always conglomerate of political families, drawn from such disparate and even antagonistic origins as the former Christian Democrats of the MRP, who constitute the rank and file of the Lecanua troops, and the conservative liberals of the old Fourth Republican Independents.

The regrouping of political forces would make no sense if the bulk of the socialists remained wedded to the communists. In spite of recent difficulties between the two parties, caused by the communists' realization that the union of the left worked to their own detriment, the two are condemned to remain together.

The communists know that they can never come to power by their own strength and the Socialist leader, does not consider that the old dream of the grand federation of the centre and the left, tried in 1965, has any bearing on reality. The left, in his opinion, cannot come to power, and should not come to power, without the communists.

It is not when the Socialist Party is gaining ground throughout the country, as last October's by-elections showed, when its prescription for dealing with the economic crisis is widely commented on as more convincing than the Government's, when the dynamics of unity are paying hands down for the Socialists, that it would think of breaking its alliance with the Communist Party.

The picture is certainly much less clear-cut on the other side of the fence. In a regime where the president has enormous authority and prestige, where he can effectively wield the weapon of dissolution to keep his own majority in order, notwithstanding short of a major economic crisis could really undermine him.

The new President has many assets. His conception of the presidential office is even more authoritarian than his predecessor's. It is his reality, however, that the Government is going through a difficult spell between now and next summer is inevitable.

What is perhaps more serious is the failure of M Giscard d'Estaing to establish with the bulk of his fellow countrymen the "new France" which he needs to see his way through. They do not yet have a "feel" for him, as they did with General de Gaulle and M Pompidou; and the some names give the impression that he has not yet established with them that indispensable rapport which is the essence of the election of the President by direct universal suffrage.

A government with time on its side

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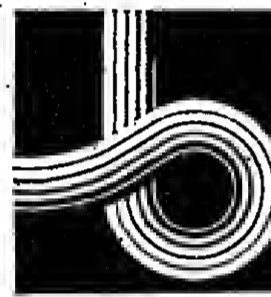
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Bobigny nouvelle ville

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A move to interdependence in foreign policy

With M Giscard d'Estaing, the keynote of French foreign policy is pragmatic realism. His vision of France's role does not preclude all sentiment; when he speaks of France as a "liberal country in the modern sense of the word—that is to say a country which urges cooperation, détente, disarmament, and contributes to the easing of tensions in the world", he does so with obvious sincerity and feeling. But he considers that the realities of her position in a Europe and a world in crisis, a position which he neither exaggerates nor minimises, must determine her action abroad.

"I am sometimes criticised for having chosen an underlined word," he declared in a television broadcast in September. "I have never confused grandeur with self-inflation. A country is great when it does not insist on itself about its real capacities, but plays fully, soberly, worthily, its part in the world in which it lives. The greatness of France, as in the past, is to be found in its ability and to face up to the tough problems which assail her."

Unlike his predecessor, who always had a deep-seated suspicion of West Germany and German power, M Giscard d'Estaing considers that France will overcome West Germany economically by 1985. He has no obsessions about Russia.

She is not the master mind of a communist party which constitutes a permanent internal threat to French social order and stability of Giscard's philosophy. Like him, he believes in the capacity and resources of France; but his view of the world, unlike M Pompidou's, is not defensive, as was the case in the last two years of M Pompidou's life under the

influence of disease. M Giscard d'Estaing is as firmly attached to the principle of national independence as was his predecessor. But for him this old Gaullist axiom has a different meaning; it spells autonomy of action and decision rather than a sort of touchy isolationism. He defined it himself clearly before the press: "In the world such as it is, and France being for solutions of cooperation and interdependence, it is natural that she should participate in a certain number of organisations, that she should press for the setting up of certain structures of cooperation, ever for a more thoroughgoing organisation of Europe. But she means to preserve the sovereignty of her decisions. France does not accept solutions of domination."

The change the new President's approach has produced in French foreign policy towards the United States and the European Community is marked. French diplomats quote the aphorism of the Duc de Choiseul, the Foreign Minister of Louis XV—"one can take every liberty on condition one is gracious." They refer to the extent that French foreign policy, since M Giscard d'Estaing took office, has certainly become more gracious than it was when M Jobert used to condemn the hegemony of the super-powers."

press conference that its keynote was *concertation* and interdependence rather than national independence. The crisis in the world is being viewed by him in terms of an "increased consciousness of the interdependence between nations."

It was obvious that the solutions to be worked out could not be solutions of domination. "That is why the foreign policy of France will each time give priority to solutions of concertation and negotiation." This is a far cry from the rights reserved last winter of M Jobert's doctrine of "splendid isolation."

World hegemony condemned

Since the election campaign the communists, along with the more vigilant Gaullists, have suspected M Giscard d'Estaing's world-wide approach to the solution of the problems of foreign policy as being aimed at a cooling down of the tensions of the Atlantic. As a result, drawing France into the orbit of American influence, if not of actually preparing surreptitiously the return of France into the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. But M Pompidou in his time was also suspect of such treasonable intent, until more lately when M Jobert found true Gaullist accents to condemn American pretensions to world hegemony.

It is certainly in relations with the United States that the change in French foreign policy since last May has been most conspicuous. As a senior French official told me: "They had become so bad that they could only get better." But searching the record, there is no real evidence that Paris has made to Washington any concessions of substance.

It is much more a case of its becoming amiable in the words of the Duc de Choiseul. As with other countries, like West Germany, relations have become more straightforward and devoid of emotional overtones. M Giscard d'Estaing, the Foreign Minister, said they had been *détachés*, which could be translated as "unintended."

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Last summer, the French Gaullists presented a programme of automatic abolition of the United States by the European Community. Consultation takes place on an ad hoc basis and works satisfactorily enough.

The French Government has stood firm on its refusal to join the Group of Twelve on energy, which is regarded as a "dangerous instrument" to rearm America's nuclear power.

It could even be claimed that the decision to propose a meeting to President Pompidou, President de Gaulle's last wish, was a very open approach to Russia as a veritable conquest of Eastern Europe.

The words remembering that during his 15 years as the Finance Ministry he always found time to preside over the French delegation on trade and cooperation with Russia, Romania, Bulgaria, Hungary and Poland. He has through the years developed a very intimate personal working relationship with the East.

A recent demonstration of this interest was his acceptance of a formal invitation to visit Poland next year. Poland does not stand very high in the list of French priorities; but it was a way of demonstrating that with super-powers called into play this was no neutral case on the contrary, it was between the two camps.

public foreseen as economic match for Germany Maintaining a balancing act over oil

the moment M Franco-German axis, would d'Estaing took be substituted for the new last May, European entente cordiale with a far-reaching Britain, dear to President Pompidou.

The fact that the President of France will deny and the Chancellor for the progressive who knew and appreciated pid organization of one another and had the an unity", he said in same practical, unsentimental message to Par-four days after his problems, met three times During the cam- reddy initiatives to set on the rails again.

as fully aware that the period of the presidency of the Ministers of the dity the partners of would naturally look inspiration and lea- The EEC partners' to rescue Europe rruption took preced- the fear of domina- the larger membe- Community, notably

iscard d'Estaing is European idealist. His oo of the necessity rope to unite is not on sentiment a sober analysis of elessness divided to its interests in the e between the super

essing the country rvision last summer, he had been struck facts. In their inau- speeches neither Nixon nor Presi- ford had mentioned once, and the mity had been power- stop a conflict he- two of its associa- re over Cyprus.

in this I draw two ions", he said. "The that Europe can rely itself to unite; the that the modern will truly be the world only when its ill cease to show a in the place of

ore recent emphasis press meeting last r on the increasing pudence between ons of the world led glio to insist on the to organize what he ed as "the Europe of ty".

revelation, in the lar- ges of the campaign, since Britain had d a reserved stand- towards the mity. "progress in nstruction of Europe through a deeper tanding with the Fed- erpublic" was imme- sely upon by the as evidence that a towards the priviledged foreign policy. The old romantic view of General de and Dr Adenauer Gaulle and Dr Adenauer is a thing of the past. What counts now is a sober



President Giscard d'Estaing with Herr Helmut Schmidt in Paris last May.

parallel improvement with those countries of the EEC. Germany to the fore, which have closer transatlantic affinities than France. The problem of relations between Europe and the United States has not been solved, but France has agreed to settle it.

Relations with its other European partners have improved also because France has given up its former categorical stand on what might be called ideological aspects of European unity.

Theology never made Europe progress, because it imprisoned the Europeans in their own quarrels, instead of raising problems in new end contemporary turns". M Giscard d'Estaing said at his press conference.

The endless discussions about European Europe and European independence are regarded as no longer in season. In both form and content, the French Government's approach to European problems has undergone significant changes since M Giscard d'Estaing took office.

It was clear from the outset that there would be a French initiative on Europe at a summit which would meet in Paris before the end of the French six-month presidency of the Council of Ministers. But it was characteristic of M Giscard d'Estaing's new conception of European partnership that he did not wish this initiative to appear in any way a French, or for that matter a Franco-German, fait accompli, a plan drawn up by the Quai d'Orsay.

He wanted the agenda to grow out of informal contacts and discussions. That was the purpose of the summit dinner of September 14. The formula proved a success. At least Mr Wilsoo liked it and the Benelux countries did not feel that such meetings could lead to the smaller members of the Community being steamrollered by the three larger ones.

In content also, the French approach has changed. M Giscard d'Estaing's tentative proposals, first economic and financial, and more recently institutional and political, deserved a better welcome than they got from his European partners. They sprang from two basic considerations: to preserve the Community from further dislocation and take it a step forward by a series of concrete, practical measures, steering clear of the long catalogue of pious hopes produced by the Paris summit of 1972.

C.H.

so that their purchasing power on average was back where it had been in 1960, and then began—for the non oil-producing countries—to fall back again from May this year.

But France has continued to benefit from living in this world, and its booming industries have obtained their inputs at the most favourable going prices on world commodity markets.

Since the oil crisis the problems have become urgent. France has been perhaps better prepared to make the necessary adaptations. This is not solely thanks to their being "the logical French"; as Europe's leading agricultural producer country they have one foot in the producer countries' camp and another in the heavily industrial economies of Britain or Germany.

However, the quadrupling of oil prices, was just as much a brutal shock for the French as for those countries. M Sauvagnargues welcomed "a redistribution of the cards" but sternly warned the oil-producing countries at the United Nations that unilateral decisions could not ensure them lasting gains. He even went so far as to remark that the blocks will be equally represented, M Giscard d'Estaing reckons that the non oil-producing developing countries' representatives will side with the industrialized nations.

When the French Cabinet on September 25, set a limit of 51,000m francs (about £4,500m) on its fuel imports for next year, the decision was thus not without irony from a country which for years had advocated assuring producer countries previously fixed revenues on which they could plan their economies.

M Jean Pierre Fourcade, the economics minister, explained in Washington that the government's policy must be to reduce in fuel imports for next year, after an estimated 4 per cent achieved this year over 1973. The American reaction was "to express delight, thinking that France was serious about its contribution approach with the Arabs."

But French diplomacy saw it more modestly as only a means of entering into eventual negotiations with the oil-producing countries at least on a disadvantage: the difference remains that France accepts intellectually, unlike Dr Kissinger, the Arabs' basic argument that their oil price rises were a consequence of western countries' inflation, not a cause of it.

The French, moreover, realize that one country's fixing its import bill can have

only a very limited effect on oil producers' policies. A senior executive in the French oil industry remarked to me that whether France could stick to the figure would simply depend on how severe the winter proves to be.

M Micheli d'Ornano, the Minister of Industry, has already indicated that draconian restrictions will be needed if the Organization of Oil-producing Countries proceeds to indexing from January 1, as it threatened at Vienna. It would mean an 8 per cent cutback, not 6 per cent.

M Giscard d'Estaing's tripartite conference proposal is thus a major effort to remedy a grave political situation and to maintain France's "balancing Act" between the blocks of producer and consumer nations.

France will not cause difficulties for the international oil-sharing agency of the 12, the President said. Indeed, with its partners in the EEC inside, it seems clear that France can coolly reckon to a higher productivity from Franco-African cooperation. Africa, the great "reserve continent" could play a role, the French reckon, in a new economic equilibrium, freeing Europe from much dependence on the Arabs.

As distinguished a personality in Franco-African relations as Senegal's President, M Léonold Sédar Senghor, recently declared that in equal terms of trade represented "the new form of pillage of the Third World" and he has twice seen President Giscard d'Estaing in Paris since May. Official study missions are now going to French-speaking African countries as a prelude to putting relations on a new footing.

France aid is not going to be cut to wretchedly poor countries like Upper Volta, where it provides 30 per cent of the national budget, but countries like the Congo, Gabon, Togo and Zaire, with resources which have now become attractive to exploit, can all expect that France will seek to put relations on a more businesslike basis. President Omar Bongo of Gabon has already told France there must be new negotiations for a 1975 price on its uranium.

Dahomey has just become the seventh former French African colony since January 1973 to announce that it wants to renegotiate its economic relations with Paris. In other words, France is finding that it will have to seek to apply just as much the new-style Concentration in Africa, for so long its own "backyard", as with the Arabs,

New resource diplomacy

Though the name "resource diplomacy" is new to the French an (often highly theoretical) analysis of world commodity market problems is relatively long standing. When M. Jean Sauvagnargues, the Foreign Minister, spoke at the United Nations General Assembly in September, he strove hard to avoid a "we told you so" tone after years of French delegations getting up at ineffectual international economic gatherings and speaking in favour of huffer stocks, international financing schemes and projects to guarantee developing primary producer countries their levels of income against brusque changes in the terms of trade.

It all remained pure theory and, French experts say, the countries producing raw materials saw the terms of trade progressively go against them throughout the 1960s, recover in the extraordinary years 1972 and 1973.

Modest Arab response

This brings up the crucial problem for France in its new resource-oriented diplomacy: that since M Jöherr's journeys the Middle East countries have notably failed to play up to the openings France offered them. The big "framework agreements" offering industrial cooperation in return for assured petrol supplies so much talked of with Saudi Arabia and Iran are still only in the air. France has evidently been judged not a heavy enough partner



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Co-operation that works
But Airbus Industrie has done so much more than simply build a new and quiet comfortable plane. The success of this new young company in launching a large new civil aircraft indicates clearly how committed Europeans, submerging national differences, can work together with determination to gain a foothold in a highly competitive world market. Airbus Industrie is a convincing demonstration of the possibilities offered by European co-operation at a practical working level.

Airbus Industrie is Europe working together to success.

Airbus A300
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FROM AIRBUS INDUSTRIE

by Charles Hargrove

There are two ways of looking at prospects for the French economy in this dismal autumn when the full impact of the energy crisis and of the rise in prices is beginning to take a severe toll of the illusions entertained until the end of the summer.

The first is to dwell on its weaknesses. One is the dangerous dependence of France, by comparison with other industrial countries, on imported energy, with its effects on the balance of payments. Another is the fragility of the French export structure, with its greater dependence on food and semi-finished products, which are more sensitive to fluctuations in world economic trends, than on machinery and investment goods.

A third is the continued inflationary pressure, which is due only in part to the quadrupling of the oil import bill. A fourth is the age structure of the French working population, with a higher proportion of school-leavers going in search of jobs on to a contracting labour market in a period of economic deceleration.

Another way is to look at the French economy's assets which make France much better placed than some of its European neighbours in the battle against inflation. Among these is an economic structure which is basically sound, without excessive dependence on exports; an apparatus of production which has been progressively modernized in the past 15 years; a rate of investment of 30 per cent of the gross in 1973, higher than West Germany's; fast rising

productivity and a growth rate of 37 per cent in the past five years, the highest in Europe. Even next year, with an estimated 3.5 to 4 per cent growth rate, France will be ahead of her partners in the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

Finally, after an initial fall, the franc has recovered the position it held when it floated last January, which is comparable to that in 1969, and French reserves have remained at about the level of last January.

This comparison of weaknesses and assets is what has encouraged the Government to adopt a standpoint of qualified optimism on prospects for the economy until the end of next year and to propose a neutral, balanced budget, without any additional tax squeeze. It is banking on the continued decline in raw material prices, the stabilization of oil and a certain recovery of world activity, as forecast by the OECD.

M. Jean-Pierre Fourcade, the Finance Minister, said in his budget speech that any analysis of the situation of our country shows that recovery is possible, but it will require effort, time and continuity. The cooling-off of the economy has made it possible to achieve an initial slowing-down of the rise in prices, and at the same time a certain recovery of our trade balance has appeared.

The cooling-off has in fact begun much earlier and more sharply than the Government had expected. It has been brought home to public opinion in the form of the latest employment statistics. The number of registered unemployed has exceeded the half million deficit of about 25,000

since 1968, and went up by this by the end of 1975. Domestic consumption has developed smoothly, without panic buying (except for heating appliances, blankets and woollens) and the level of savings remained until recently, remarkably high. But, with industry turning over at full capacity, there has been some creation of speculative stocks of raw materials, extensive borrowing, especially by medium and small firms, and a very generous wage policy, prompted by full employment, the acute shortage of skilled labour and the desire to keep production going at any price.

So the brunt of the "squeeze" last summer was brought to bear on firms, in the form of tough credit restrictions, an increase in company tax of 10 per cent, reduction of the depreciation allowance and, especially, a highly controversial tax conjoncturelle, or anti-inflation tax, designed to prevent firms' passing on "unreasonable" wage increases and other costs on to the consumer in the form of higher prices. This tax, which is very unpopular with the employers and the unions, is intended to directly to hold down wages.

Yet for several months after M. Giscard's hairbreadth election victory, the French Labour movement remained remarkably quiet. The main criticisms of the new Government have come not from the unions but from management. Far from abandoning Gaullist ideas on worker participation and the union-management dialogue initiated by M. Chaban-Delmas, M. Giscard has pushed further ahead at a pace which has disconcerted management and left the unions out of breath.

The recent industrial peace, broken at the end of last month by the postal strike, was due as much to political factors as to their success at the polls, the parties of the left have regained confidence and taken back much of the opposition role so often left

francs this year, and to do this by the end of 1975. While maintaining full employment, the medium or long-term aim is to reduce the country's dependence on imported energy by half by 1985 through fuel saving and the intensive development of nuclear power and its own oil resources.

By making full employment its priority—for that is what it amounts to—the Government is to some extent stacking the cards against itself. But the fact remains that France has always come more easily to terms with inflation than with unemployment, a position exactly the reverse of West Germany's. This attitude, it must also be said, has been encouraged by the fact that in the past year, wages have increased by more than 20 per cent, and until now have always kept a jump ahead of prices.

Independent experts are inclined to agree that the Government can achieve its objective of reducing the present rate of inflation, though not to half of what it is now. It is considered that 10 to 12 per cent by mid-1975 is nearer the mark. It has begun to do this by a series of cooling-off measures which, when announced last July, were criticized as excessively drastic. But, now that they are beginning to make themselves felt, they are provoking howls of anguish and protest on all sides.

The Government's diagnosis of inflation in France has led it to conclude that it was provoked by industrial rather than domestic consumption, save for a buying boom in the autumn which pushed retail sales up 30 per cent (one big Paris department store had its

best Saturday of business in history).

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by Michael Parrott

When M. Giscard d'Estaing presented his candidature in this year's presidential elections his opponents were quick to pick on social policy and labour relations as the main weakness in his political platform.

The Gaullist rival, M. Chaban-Delmas, could point to his success in bringing unions and management round the negotiating table when he was Prime Minister a few years earlier, while the Socialist candidate, M. Mitterrand, could, like Mr Wilson in Britain, offer the promise of industrial peace on the basis of his union support. M. Giscard, the aloof Finance Minister with little taste for ideology, he it was who would be unable to rally the country behind his policies.

Yet for several months after M. Giscard's hairbreadth election victory, the French Labour movement remained remarkably quiet. The main criticisms of the new Government have come not from the unions but from management. Far from abandoning Gaullist ideas on worker participation and the union-management dialogue initiated by M. Chaban-Delmas, M. Giscard has pushed further ahead at a pace which has disconcerted management and left the unions out of breath.

The recent industrial peace, broken at the end of last month by the postal strike, was due as much to political factors as to their success at the polls, the parties of the left have regained confidence and taken back much of the opposition role so often left

to the unions; and there was a feeling that M. Giscard had been given the chance to present his new policies.

Another reason was that the new President gave little cause for union discontent. As expected, he did not provoke union wrath by imposing a Gaullist-style price and incomes policy; instead he announced his intention to introduce a tax on companies making excessive price increases or wage awards. And though M. Jean-Pierre Fourcade, the Minister of Finance, asked unions to limit their real wage increases to only 2 per cent a year, French workers will probably win 4 per cent in 1976. The President also made an immediate gesture to the unions by raising the basic minimum wage, family allowances, old age pensions and certain other social benefits.

Meanwhile M. Giscard called on management and unions to open negotiations over the problems of redundancy and working conditions and set up a committee under a former minister, M. Pierre Sudreau, to examine in broad terms the participation of workers in the management of firms. But whereas M. Chaban-Delmas would have left management and unions to themselves, M. Giscard warned both sides that the Government would step in with its own legislation if they failed to reach a settlement by any date.

If M. Michel Durafour, the Labour Minister, has made some rather surprising statements, the committee's recommendations are unlikely to reflect Gaullist ideology. The Government's first

real success in its labour programme came last month when the French employers' association finally agreed to union demands that workers made redundant through the suppression of their jobs should receive unemployment benefits equivalent to their full wages for up to a year. These benefits, which are more generous than those available in any other country, will be paid from a joint employer-employee fund in which the employer pays 80 per cent. The agreement, which is expected to cost some 190m next year, was signed a few days before the Government announced that France's unemployment figures had exceeded 500,000.

The Government is also negotiating with unions and management over combining the joint fund with the state's own unemployment benefits. Under pressure from the employers the Government has already agreed to increase its contribution to more than £100m, from about £70m, but the unions are pressing for an even bigger contribution so that unemployment benefits as a whole can be improved.

Unions and management are also negotiating the revision of a 1969 agreement over procedures to be adopted when companies dismiss employees. Not only do the unions want the agreement to be applied to individual workers as well as mass layoffs, but they are demanding more information, the right to make counter-proposals and eventual recourse to an arbitration committee. The revision of the agreement must be suspended while the court is examining the case, and sometimes they go so far as demanding


that no redundancies should be allowed to take effect until the employer has found alternative employment for those laid off. Needless to say, such talks are proving difficult. More progress is being made in another series of negotiations concerning working conditions in the textile industry. The Government has made some agreement by the end of the year on relations in night work, and on high-line production, and piece-rate work.

However, what has happened among the French but community, at a time companies are already suffering from a tough squeeze and tight price controls, is the prospect of a new agreement on whatever emerges from the Durafour committee. Durafour caused concern when he publicly stated that company agreements might be elected by the workers for the executives and workers might be restricted to full information on workings of the company and that management might even be accountable to the workers for the way they ran the company.

There are good reasons for believing that the Durafour committee will come out with anything less than a restriction on company executives and workers' freedom to make proposals, let alone anything as far-reaching as co-management; for the whole arbitration policy is launched by General de Gaulle as the third between capitalism and socialism has never been much favoured by employers or union leaders.

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Energy plans could inspire neighbours

When the Arabs stunned the world last year with their oil embargo, France seemed to be the one country which might emerge from the crisis unscathed. Thanks to de Gaulle's careful cultivation of the Arabs, France was assured, even with Britain as a friendly nation entitled to almost normal supplies.

The country's elaborate system of market controls proved a useful bargaining card when the major oil companies might have been tempted to switch crude destined for France to other markets. And the French never suffered the economic slow-down, three-day weeks, carless Sundays and lengthy oil queues that became such a feature of last winter.

However, when the oil producers raised their prices for the second time in December, it suddenly became obvious that it was France, along with Japan and Italy, which would be the main long-term victims of the Middle East war.

With limited coal resources, declining gas reserves, insignificant hydro-electric and nuclear power and no oil of its own, France depends on imported oil, gas and coal for 75 per cent of its energy consumption. With imported oil accounting for 66 per cent of total French energy consumption, France saw a 1973 trade surplus of some £600m turned into a 1974 deficit of £2,000m.

The price increase came at the worst possible moment, after France had moved away from coal and before it was able to build up its nuclear energy. With only 1,400 million tons of known coal reserves compared with 276,000 million tons in Germany and 171,000 million in Britain, the French realized many years ago that coal offered no answer to the country's energy problems.

Since 1960 French coal output has been halved, bringing coal's share of French energy demand to only 17 per cent compared with 55 per cent. However, the availability of cheap oil in the 1960s made nuclear energy economically unattractive and it was not until 1969 that the French Government swallowed national pride by adopting the well-tried United States lightwater reactor technology instead of its own gas-cooled reactors. Nuclear energy has now become economic, but will take at least a decade before the French can reduce their dependence on oil and gas.

France's future energy position is much bleaker than that of most other European countries. Britain and Germany can always fall back on their coal, while the North Sea offers huge oil and gas prospects for the countries surrounding it. Ever since the French found gas in south-west France in the 1950s, they have had no success on their own territory. Hopes that the Sahara oil and gas discoveries might give France the self-sufficiency it has always sought vanished with Algeria's independence and the nationalizations in 1971.

France's measures to limit energy consumption have already won admiring comments from foreigners, including President Ford. It would surprise nobody if other countries followed the one action programme on the French approach.

But it is not always realized that despite endless political speeches and energy packages, it was only this autumn that any really effective measures were taken. The death of President Pompidou, the accession of Georges Pompidou and the subsequent reversion of any legislation being adopted earlier.

On the basis of energy consumption over the first nine months of this year the Government looks like keeping 1974 energy consumption at 1973 levels and cutting oil consumption by about 5 per cent compared with previous annual increases of more than 10 per cent. Consumption of heating oil was down 9.5 per cent, heavy fuel oil for electricity production down 5.8 per cent and petrol down 3.7 per cent, while heavy fuel for industry and gas oil rose 3.1 per cent and 5.8 per cent respectively. The results are not as good as those of most other European countries, but they were achieved during a period of strong economic growth on the basis mainly of price increases.

The Government's economy measures have been concentrated on the domestic fuel oil sector, which accounts for more than a third of French oil consumption. Heating in the administration offices is to be cut by 20 per cent, that of offices and public buildings limited to 20°C (68°F) and customers will be entitled to only 80 per cent of the fuel oil they bought last year. Building regulations have been revised to improve thermal insulation and various incentives have been introduced to increase the efficiency of heating systems.

In the heavy fuel sector, which also accounts for more than a third of French oil consumption, the Government has been more cautious because of the consequences of reductions on economic growth and exports. Electricity de France has been asked to use more imported coal rather than oil for its electricity production, while fuel oil supplies to industry will be rationed after negotiations with each sector.

Studies are also being made to cut petrol consumption without resorting to drastic price rises or rationing. Legislation has been passed giving the Cabinet emergency powers to adopt any measure of control or rationing which it considers necessary in the event of an oil shortage or a dangerous situation of payments.

But the most effective way to cut oil consumption is to replace oil heating with electricity in French homes. This is the reason behind France's massive nuclear programme. In March it was announced that seven nuclear plants would be built annually in the period to 1980 with a view to having some 50 plants operational by 1985 capable of meeting 25 per cent of France's energy needs. This compares with less than 2 per cent today. By 1980 nuclear power should account for 30 per cent of French electricity production, and by 1985 75 per cent compared to only 8 per cent last year.

Farmers' threats win reform

by Richard Wigg

The story is told—it is a true one—of a young Parisian, disillusioned by the outcome of the events of May-June, 1968, who decided to make a total break with industrial civilization and work simply on the land. The job he eventually got was on a highly modernized farm producing veal and chicken on quasi-industrial productivity lines. He opted out again, this time to become a shepherd, the first recruited among the aging and poor hill farmers of the Cévennes for a long time.

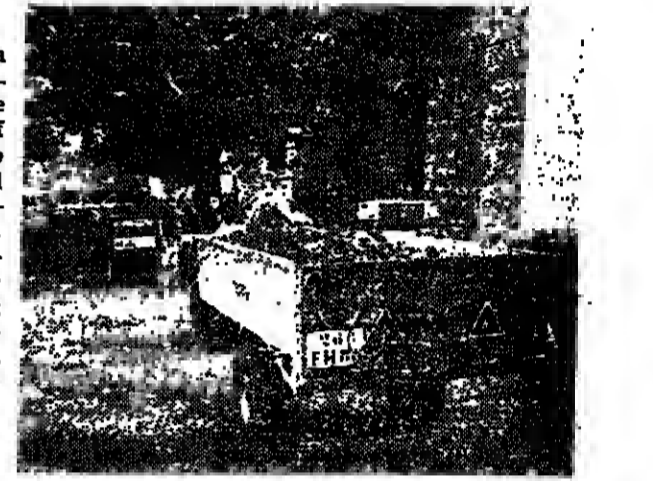
The anecdote serves to show more than the ignorance of many city dwellers about the advances of French agriculture since the Second World War. It conveys the extreme diversity of French farming—big, almost industrial scale at one end and nineteenth-century bare subsistence living at the other.

The structure of the industry is revealed by the official de l'Agriculture (1970), which shows that of 1,552,000 farms in France (in Britain there are about 300,000), 42 per cent were of less than 10 hectares (25 acres) in size, and 48.6 per cent more were of 10 to 50 hectares only.

This is reflected in striking income inequalities. In the Paris agricultural basin the annual income of agricultural workers on a 20 hectare farm averages 34,000 francs, but this goes up to 69,000 francs on farms over 100 hectares. However, according to a survey by the National Institute of Statistics, in backward agricultural regions like Limousin and parts of Brittany, the smallholders obtain a revenue of only 11,000 francs per worker (usually themselves).

France has become an industrial country with a strong agricultural base. But, contrary to what has happened in the United States, the human structure of its farming still lingers in the past. When the 1970 census was taken 53.6 per cent of farm owners were over 50 years of age. The figures have come down. In 1963 the farming community represented 19 per cent of the active population. Last year it was only 17.7 per cent. In 1945 the proportion on the land was 25 per cent.

The problem with French agriculture is that the "tail" continues to be too long. This is the basic factor driving French Ministers of Agriculture into fighting endless rearguard actions in the European Community. No matter how ingenious the arguments sound, French agriculture, as it is now organized, comes comically into its own only when higher prices are prevailing on world markets.



Grapes waiting to be tipped into presses at St Tropez.

the farmers questioned felt that policies took too much account of the interests of the big farmers.

Even more ominous, the poll showed that 50 per cent of the farmers said they would vote next time for left-wing opposition parties; only 23 per cent said they would continue to vote for the Government. Twenty-seven per cent were undecided. These figures must be a warning to M. Jacques Chirac, the Prime Minister, who first built himself a political base on the farmers' vote while an aide of President Pompidou and then became Minister for Agriculture.

A second reason for the sense of decline for present policies is that the day-to-day costs are increasingly onerous, to the disadvantage of long-term investment.

The July emergency subsidies, decided by the Government in defiance of the Common Agricultural Policy, in aid of farmers hit by higher prices for fertilizer, animal feeds, and petrol—while according to French farmers' unions could lead to a 15 per cent drop in incomes this year—total more than 3,000m francs. This compares with a next year's agricultural budget of 2,200m francs.

These subsidies, paid to big and small farmers alike, are in addition to an estimated 1,100m franc market intervention fund to be spent next year by the state, plus an estimated 3,100m francs coming to France from the EEC fund.

However, assistance towards modernizing agriculture, at 2,800m francs, will actually be less than it was last year because of inflation. For instance, the fund for the key organization designed to help young farmers to acquire land or extend existing units is to get only 78m francs. The Young Farmers' Union has for years been campaigning for a target of 100m francs annually, and has calculated that the figure needed next year to begin significant structural reform would be nearer 1,500m francs.

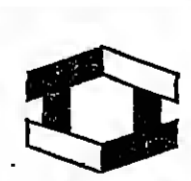
of the Dutch Produk p.c. wheat office, a successfully with the scale cereal farmer late 1930s. But organic producers or vegetable growers will fundamental problem France's small farms efficiency discipline.

The initiative for agricultural policy have to come from it, wrong to overlook the first signs of a new expressed by M. Debutisse, president National Federation Farmers' Unions, and call small farmer by himself.

The reorganization markets was a first said in a recent interview. La Croix, but was "assistance directly the quantities produced not provided a solid completely different a kind of negative fitting the numerous farmers as a means social justice, ought to be considered the last summer publicized the present "aristocratic" system of soil and farmers' loans be noted, "saved to the already abnormal of farm incomes".

The present financial policies that not go on. But the farmers, as a result today's inflation and input prices, are in serious difficulty are often heavily indebted. However, the farmers have made it clear they will adamantly any brutal reorganization French farms on Am lines, and they are in favour of substantial negotiations of the younger French people for this

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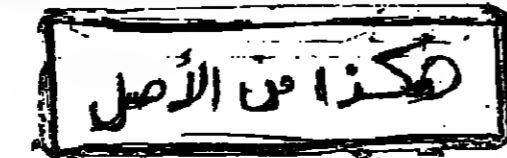
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Arms: a question of success versus conscience

by John Ardagh

France's arms industry is so large, and so successful in its exports, that some French officials seem quite embarrassed and try to play it down. "It is not true that we are aggravating an arms race", I was told at the exports branch of the Defence Ministry. "We are not mere marchands de canons, and in fact France produces only 3 per cent of the world's armaments— as a share of gross national product, that is less than Sweden or Yugoslavia."

Whether or not this is so, it is inevitable that the French are caught between such problems of conscience and the desire, especially strong since the oil crisis, to help their trade balance and employment position by selling as much as possible. This dilemma colours the outlook of an industry that employs 270,000 people, or one French worker in 19.

Seeing that France, unlike Britain, ended the Second World War with its arms industry at a low ebb, its achievement in rebuilding it has been one of the many remarkable aspects of the postwar economic miracle. It has been due to a dynamic centralized state policy aided by the brilliance and enterprise of a few private firms, notably M Marcel Dassault's aircraft firm.

The foremost aim has been the political and strategic one of making France self-sufficient in defence, and this has been virtually achieved; apart from one or two imported components and licences, France equips its armed forces itself, either alone or in co-production, and buys nothing.

France is now the world's third arms exporter, after the United States and Soviet Union. Exports account for

about half of total production and have been rising rapidly, from a mere 310m francs in 1956 to 3,300m in 1970 and more than 8,000m last year. One forecast for this year is 14,000m francs, or about a quarter of all France's exports of equipment. No wonder, in these days of economic crisis, that arms sales have become so vital.

The industry is organized thus: about 20 per cent of all armaments are made by the industrial branch of the defence Ministry, 50 per cent by private firms and 30 per cent by state-owned firms operating on commercial lines.

The Ministry's own output supplies most of the needs of the Army—tanks, munitions and so on—as well as warships, while aircraft and missiles are made solely by outside firms. Dassault, for instance, has almost a monopoly of fighters and bombers, while helicopters are made exclusively by the state aerospace giant, SNIA (Société Nationale Industrielle Aérospatiale), which is responsible also for the Concorde and the Airbus.

Besides Dassault the main private firms are Matra and Thomson-Houston (both for missiles) and Panhard (machine-guns and armoured vehicles).

European countries account for about half the market, and these include even a Warsaw Pact nation, Romania, which gets unarmed helicopters. The rest of the market and an expanding part, is in Asia, Latin America and so on, and in many cases this raises the delicate issue of embargoes. Since early in General de Gaulle's reign the

idea of French policy has been to allow a country to buy arms for its sovereign defence but not for anti-guerrilla operations.

Thus, South Africa has been sold submarines, fighter aircraft and missiles but denied helicopters and armoured vehicles. All

sales to Chile were stopped on the late President Pompidou's orders after the purchase last year. Sometimes arms are also embargoed if a country is caught reselling; helicopters once bought by Liechtenstein for its police force later turned up with the Portuguese Army in Angola, after which the principality found itself on the black list.

As many as 70 countries are under some kind of partial embargo, but each request is studied on its merits and there are plenty of loopholes. Some French officials will admit in private that not all the sales are morally defensible, but they tend to use the old argument of "well if we didn't sell, someone else would".

This kind of casuistry seems to have worried M Giscard d'Estaing, who, even as Minister of Finance showed himself more reticent about such sales than some of his Gaullist colleagues. In his election campaign in May he urged that France should reduce its emphasis on arms exports, and in June he declared as President that France would not sell arms that might obstruct its diplomatic policy of supporting "the cause of liberty and the right of peoples to self-determination". So everyone expected a tightening of embargoes.

However, this has not yet happened. In fact, I learnt from reliable sources that in recent months the President has been led to modify his plans for stricter embargoes. The suggested reasons are: his anxiety over France's mounting trade deficit; his worry lest France should fall behind its competitors in so crucial an area of technology, and pressure from its economic and military advisers on both these points.

In the case of Greece, luckily for M Giscard, the big arms contracts prepared under M Pompidou, and signed in May, no longer trouble his conscience now that the colonels are gone. But, significantly, the embargo on sales to Israel and its Arab neighbours has been a

lifted since August. The official French view is that this embargo had unfairly benefited Israel, that it had provided ineffective because not applied by others too, and that it had been rendered absurd by the Libyan transfer of Mirages to Egypt.

In the case of sales to Nato countries, France is faced with a different kind of dilemma, not moral but political. It seems that it wants to go on having its cake and eating it, to develop arms deals and coproductions with its neighbours without thereby rejoining Nato.

However, there are signs that its self-exclusion from Nato may also exclude it from some European arms markets, and the issue is now an acute one. On the one hand France favours coproductions that can help to share costs and widen markets, and hence its commitment to some recent projects now in mass production, such as the Anglo-French Jaguar support aircraft and the Franco-German Alpha-Jet training aircraft. On the other hand its refusal to have close liaison with Nato's Euro-group can make some forms of joint sale or coproduction more difficult.

It is true that there are still many Gaullists and others who argue that French sales have never suffered from the withdrawal from Nato. They point to the fact that when Nato countries chose the Starfighter rather than the Mirage 3 France simply turned to the rest of the world so as to make a huge commercial success of the Mirage.

According to this view, many Third World countries would rather buy from France just because it is not in Nato. But other French experts believe that this argument is becoming less valid. President Giscard himself is thought to share their fears, and there are signs that France will soon move back into much closer liaison with the Euro-group.

An important test case is imminent. Four Nato countries (Belgium, Holland, Denmark and Norway) take a joint decision early next

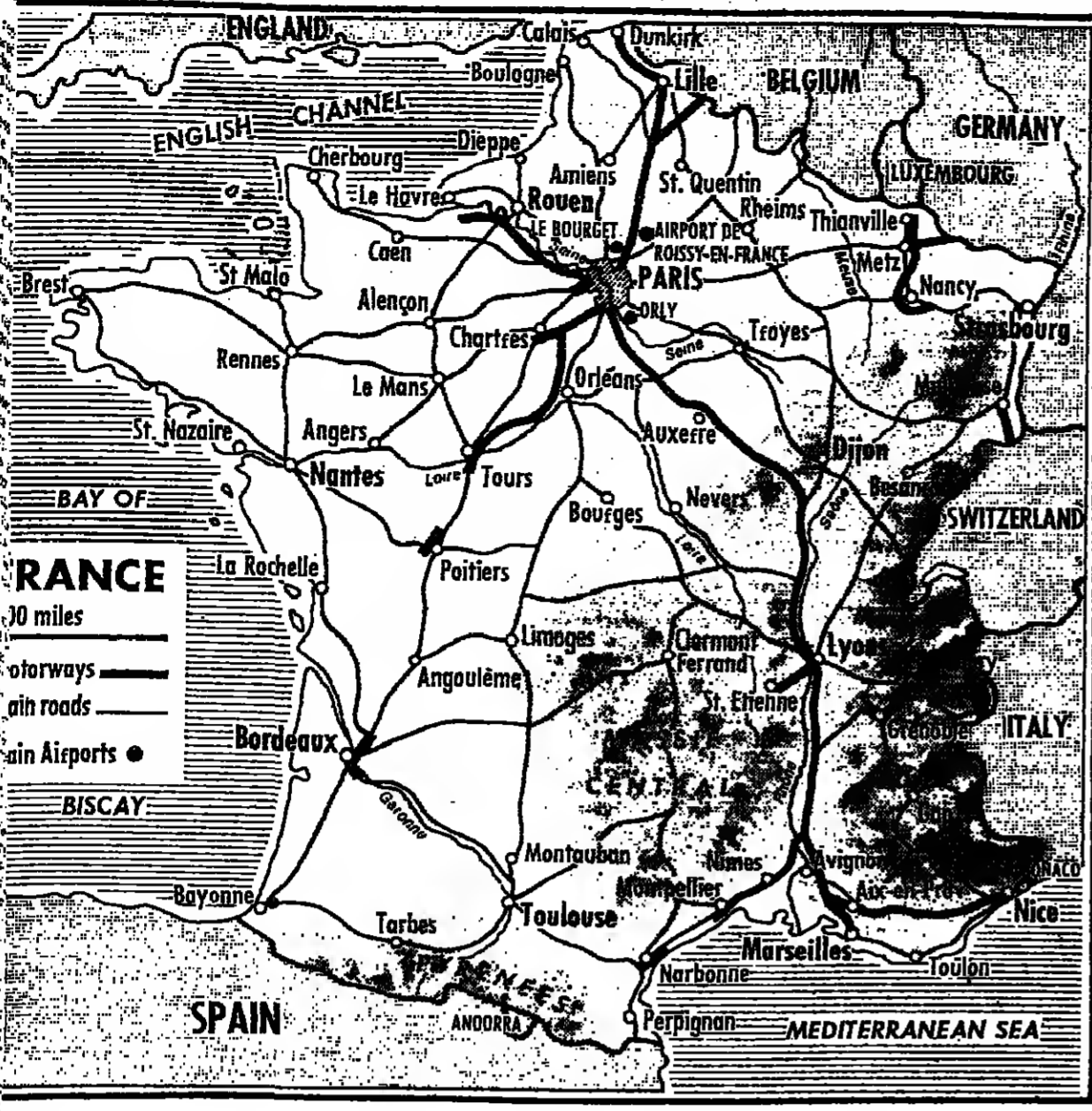
year on whether to replace their Starfighters with one of two new American aircraft or with the French candidate, the F1 M53 (an existing Mirage F1 with a new M53 engine). Described as the arms deal of the century, the contract will be worth initially at least £1,600m.

Officially, the French are confident that they will win, but it seems unlikely that they will, since only Belgium is believed to favour the F1 M53. If the Americans get the contract it will be argued that one factor was that they, and not the French, are members of Nato.

If these nations reject the F1 M53, will France be able to find enough orders elsewhere abroad to make the aircraft a sound economic proposition for its own air force? And if it decides to subsidize the F1 M53 for prestige reasons will it also be able to afford its other expensive new project now in the prototype phase, Dassault's twin-engine bomber known as the Avion Combat Futur (ACF), of which the French Air Force wants to order 200? Will not one or other finally have to be postponed or cancelled? This is the subject of much heart-searching in Paris.

The issue underlines the hazards of an arms policy that has shown brilliant results but remains basically vulnerable. Until now France has been able to equip its armed forces with the finest modern weapons by spreading the cost through export sales (at least in the non-nuclear field). It has managed this without sacrifice or its cherished politico-strategic independence.

However, production costs are now rising so fast that it may soon face a sterner choice: to foot a much larger bill for the armed forces, or to sacrifice a degree of independence through closer collaboration with Nato, or to sacrifice a degree of conscience through a bolder sales drive to countries that may wear arms more than they deserve them. The realist now in the Elysée sees clearly the choices before him.



Communications: a brake on planning answer to austerity call

Hadji-Ristic
President Giscard d'Estaing's call for national austerity has put the brakes on France's ambitious and costly communications development programme, but has far from brought it to a halt. Before the end of the decade high-speed "bullet" trains will be running from Paris to the south, and several million telephone lines will have been installed.

How far recent events will affect the development programme for roads, railways, air transport, ports and telephones, is still uncertain. The roads programme is expected to be particularly hard hit, however, largely because of the massive rise in the cost of raw materials. Perhaps not as vulnerable as some other projects will be the motorway development programme, which last year was envisaged as trebling the country's internal motorway network from the present 1,400 miles to 4,800 by the end of the decade.

In the next five years the motorway system will link Paris with Germany via Rheims, Paris with Italy via Marseille, and Lyons and Grenoble with Geneva and Chamoni. The importance of this programme is that, apart from serving the needs of regional development, it has the political objective of furthering European unity and complements schemes in progress in other countries.

because of the airlines' difficulties. The worst hit has been Air-Inter, the largest domestic carrier. Last month it made an urgent appeal for \$4.5m more government money to save it from bankruptcy. Air-Inter announced that it would no longer operate flights from Paris to Lille, Belfort and La Rochelle.

The main beneficiary in this situation will be the French railways. The increase in the cost of air travel, together with the big increases in the cost of road building, will reinforce the arguments for further substantial spending on reequipment and electrification of railway lines, as well as the building of new lines for high-speed electric trains. These will offer an effective alternative to air transport. For example, it is planned to build by 1980 a new line from Paris to Lyons, by-passing Dijon, which will cut this journey to two hours. The same train will travel from Paris to Marseille in five hours.

While there can be little question that the energy crisis reinforces the need for further development of the railways, it raises a number of questions about the future of the turbobrain, which has been under development for some time. The advantage of this train is that, using a modified gas turbine, it can operate fast services on non-electrified lines, which now represent some 74 per cent of the total network.

Turbobrain are already operating on the Paris-Caen-Cherbourg line and the line from Lyons to Strasbourg and Bordeaux. However, because of the big increases in the cost of fuel, the question is whether more money should be spent on electrification.

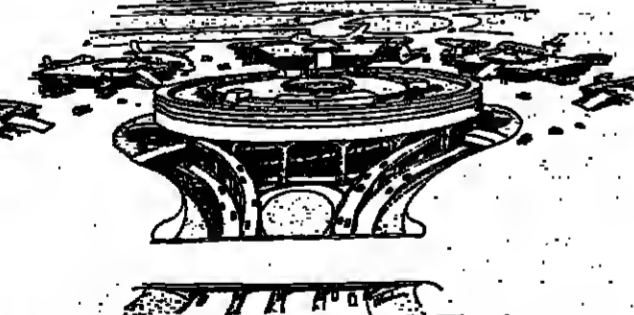
An important influence on the development of the regions will be the completion of the port development programme. Most of these projects are well on the way to completion and have high priority in public spending. The most important of them is the gigantic Marseilles port project, where some \$2,500m of public and private money is being invested.

Vast new outer harbour

From the British point of view some of the most interesting, and most challenging, schemes are on the Channel coast. The French are hoping to attract shipping and investment from the south-east of England to the ports of Le Havre, Dunkirk and Calais. Dunkirk is receiving \$30m this year; and a vast new outer harbour, seven times the size of the existing one and costing \$125m, will be operational next year. Some \$190m is being spent on Le Havre. The ports also receive substantial subsidies, unlike those in Britain.

While austerity is the general order of the day, President Giscard is committed to increase public expenditure on solving what is known in France as la Crise du téléphone. Expenditure on the improvement of the poor telephone system will be increasing rapidly in the years ahead. This year it will rise by 19 per cent compared with last year, and next year it will be up another 20 per cent. It is a sign of the times that inflation is expected to erode these massive increases, throwing into doubt the objective of creating 12 million new telephone lines by 1978.

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On this page Margot Lyon looks at government policy on the environment, law and order, and women's rights

Cost delays prison reforms

Armed robbery and other crimes of violence are increasing in France. Extremists, including Basques, Bretons and Corsicans plant bombs, though they cause infinitely less damage than the IRA.

In addition, normally law-abiding groups are turning to violence when they have a grievance: angry shopkeepers have ransacked and set fire to government offices, farmers and lorry drivers have blocked roads with burning tyres, factory workers have manhandled their bosses and locked them in their offices for days.

Most offenders are young men under 30. This age group is often responsible also for other offences on the increase such as the entry of people in underground corridors late at night, robbery of homes, destruction or theft of cars.

The French police force is inadequate in numbers and resources to face the new waves of lawlessness. M Michel Poniatoski, Minister of the Interior, organized raids during the summer in cities such as Paris, Lyons and Marseilles. Police stopped thousands of pedestrians and car passengers, checked their identities and examined their belongings.

The aim was to discourage offenders who could not know whether that night their city and their area might be the target for a swoop. It succeeded dramatically in compensating for a shortage of police. Lonely women were reassured.

But the public saw these massive police checks as an infringement of their civil liberties. M Poniatoski's reputation he had gained throughout his public career as a firm champion of liberalism. Since the summer the raids have ceased.

One could say that M Poniatoski was a victim of the realities of power. So was President Giscard when a comment he made to the press unexpectedly helped to start one of the new Government's first social problems, the wave of jail mutinies that spread like wildfire through 70 of France's prisons last July.

An admirable reform law had been passed in 1945 (after some French citizens had been shocked during the Second World War by learning about the prisons from the inside) on the principle of fitting the criminal for his return to society. President Giscard struck the same note at his first press conference on July 25, when he said:

detention itself was the prisoner's punishment, and that otherwise the jails should be used to prepare their inmates for a return to normal life.

The principle needed to be restated, because the excellent postwar laws and their various revisions still remain in force. The present prison life into five stages, from isolation through observation, education, paid work done in groups, to partial liberty. In theory special judges watch the progress of individual detainees, helped by "educators" who give skilled training, doctors and social workers.

In 1970 the sixth economic plan promised 344 probation offices, but there is still only a handful and the probation system scarcely exists.

Previous jail outbreaks in 1970 and 1972 revealed that whatever the enlightened reforms say, old-fashioned attitudes have prevailed. Discipline is harsh, warders are too few, under-trained, badly paid and obsessed by the need to keep order and preserve their own safety. Inquiries have revealed that men who give trouble may be put into solitary confinement, or straitjackets, or locked up for 23 hours a day.

A report from M Robert Schmeick, a lawyer, in 1972, said that there was never enough pressure seen that reforms were carried out.

With this in mind, President Giscard appointed Mme Helene Dorliac, a prison doctor, as junior Minister for Penitentiary Affairs when he announced his Cabinet last June. But she, M Jean Lecanoux, the new Minister of Justice, and the guarantor of law and order, M Poniatoski, were overtaken by events when trouble began in mid-July.

Once again the young men under 30 set the pace. Almost half of France's prison population of 30,000 is 30 or younger, and these men tend to be better educated, more aware of their legal rights, and unprepared to accept the brutal contrast with their life outside.

A warder of 30 years' experience said on French television in the summer that young men had unlearned privileges these days, like sports grounds, magazines and books and even showers.

"Yet they resent any discipline," he said. "On the same programme a 42-year-old ex-convict who had served in three jails said the entire French system was "an inhuman machine that aimed from start to finish to degrade and destroy".

The wave of unrest convulsed 70 of France's 180 prisons for three weeks. While the prisoners were not rioting, the guards struck for better pay and conditions and order was restored only when M Poniatoski called out the Gendarmes and the Republican Security Guard to help the police.

Throughout the trouble the public remained hostile to the prisoners and unsympathetic to their complaints. They jeer about "four-year jails", not knowing or wanting to know that 47 out of the 70 jails where riots occurred have been closed. Unfit, that many French prisons are three centuries old and that only a small minority are suitable to serve re-education centres. President Giscard won little popularity when he visited a son at Lyons and shook an inmate's hand.

What can be done in present conditions of financial stringency? When M Lecanoux proposed some expensive modernization of prisons, accusations of the same pay as policemen more training for ward and more recruits, and a pay for the work done by prisoners. But M Fouré, Minister of Finance, vetoed at the bill and asked Lecanoux to think again.

Before the summer the Cabinet had agreed on some cost measures which would not cost too much. I include alternative punishment in place of short sentences; measures to humanize living conditions in jails; more job training and better pay for work in prison; more help for prisoners when he has finished his sentence, particularly those with an imminent before trial is limited to six months. Bail system is seldom used in France, and a proportion of accused sons are imprisoned for months for a trial that acquit them.

The problem remains carrying out effective reforms at minimal cost. Dorliac has already criticized the 1975 budget inadequate. Prison reform will probably continue a considerable powers, and cost changes. Perhaps most hopeful is the plan of the Minister of Justice for extensive reform of the penal code. Less cost jails would be a great improvement for the inside.

Crusader for better quality of life

The story is told in Paris that one fine afternoon a few years ago M Giscard d'Estaing was walking back to his office at the Finance Ministry through the Tuileries and flew into a rage when he spied the first signs of skyscrapers on the skyline beyond the Etoile, in the Défense area of western Paris.

He pleaded with President Pompidou, it is said, against this desecration of the world's finest city vista, which stretches from the Louvre through the Tuileries gardens and the Champs Elysées to the great arch of the Etoile.

But M Pompidou believed that Paris must "marry the twentieth century". Tower buildings are now visible not only round La Défense behind the Etoile but beside the Seine near the Mirabeau bridge. Another spire above the new Maine-Montparnasse station; the tower of the university science faculty even looms close to Notre Dame.

M Pompidou also believed that Frenchmen would never forgo their right to drive their cars into the city centres. He knew that this would result in congestion and pollution but thought the best that could be done was to help traffic to flow as smoothly as possible.

M Giscard disagreed about the question of cars in cities, as about multi-storey blocks. But knowing the Frenchman's love for his baguette he was cautious about cars during and after the campaign that won him the presidency. For instance, he raised the price of petrol by only five centimes a litre before the customary summer excise although some advisers urged him to make the increase five times bigger.

He is known to care deeply, however, about the environment. As presidential candidate he put out an 18-point environmental programme that began with a promise to create a ministry with substantial powers and gave a pledge that the ministry would declare war on city skyscrapers, protect urban green space, foster public transport, reduce overcrowding, create pedestrian precincts, and much more.

Pedestrian precincts already exist in progressive cities such as Grenoble and Rouen, but a two-year experiment in the Paris Latin Quarter round St Séverin has been unsuccessful: residents complain that hippies have turned the streets into a noisy, dangerous fairground.

President Giscard duly appointed a man to concern himself about the environment, with the ambitious title of Minister for the Quality of Life. He is M André Jarrot, a 64-year-old citizen who is a member of the industrial town of Montceau-les-Mines. Unlike most of the present Cabinet he is not a technocrat. He began his career working in a garage; later he became a champion motor cyclist and during the Resistance was a parachutist under General de Gaulle's command.

He has a passion for ovel ideas, especially concerned with life in cities. He usually arrives at Elysée cabinet meetings in a small electrically-run car which he calls the automobile of AD 2000.

He admitted that this was a bad time to enforce severe laws or impose heavy fines, with firms facing higher costs. But he intended to stick to the principle that polluting firms should pay.

Since M Jarrot made these statements the President himself has given a warning that austerity looms ahead and will not be a mere passing phase. So the basic question clearly is whether or not concern for the quality of life is an indulgence of the affluent society, to be quietly jettisoned when economic circumstances grow tough.

It seems that President Giscard and M Jarrot believe it is not. A programme for the environment has been revised by the bureaucrats, discussed in inter-ministerial committees presided over by M Cibrac, the Prime Minister, presented to the Cabinet and debated at least in its budgetary aspects by the National Assembly. It is ambitious, though one notices that the emphasis on the fight against waste has increased as the programme has gone through various drafts.

The programme now includes short-term, medium-term and international action. The short-term action aims at strengthening existing legislation against any building, industrial or other, that is dangerous or unhealthy. It gives prefects more powers and encourages public inquiries into projects of general interest; for example, it requires factory owners to publish advance details of the environmental effects of proposed production methods. Draft laws on the conservation of natural resources and the maintenance of the ecological balance are to be presented.

The Minister for the Quality of Life must henceforth be consulted on all town and country planning operations; training courses for architects and rural engineers and for industrial managers are to be set up by the end of the year. The ministry will also publish before the end of the year a decree controlling the level of noise produced by domestic appliances and other machinery available to the general public.

On the question of noise the aims are limited and realistic. M Jarrot has studied the difficulties explored by Monsieur Sileoce—a civil servant named M Yves Martin who in 1972 declared that it was impossible to achieve effective protection against such polluters by noise as cars, aircraft, pneumatic drills and compressors; he wound up by saying that international agreement among producers of such equipment was the only solution. M Jarrot took up this theme in Brussels at a meeting of EEC ministers concerned with environmental matters.

They also discussed measures against waste. France and its partners will seek to economize energy and raw materials, and protect the environment at the same time, by developing the recycling waste in France a National Waste Disposal Agency is to be created. Local authorities will be equipped to collect and dispose of all waste in their areas.

End to throw-away society

As soon as suitable preparations are made, housewives will be taught on television to separate and classify rubbish, keeping paper separate and rinsing glass bottles and tin cans for special collection. Plastic containers will also be recycled.

Medium-term aims include guidance for consumers against shoddy goods and moves to improve the durability, maintenance and repair of consumer goods. "We are leaving our throw-away society", M Jarrot said.

By its nature M Jarrot's action programme needs the cooperation of most members of the Cabinet. In this way his task resembles that of Mme Françoise Giroud, the Minister in charge of women's affairs; but M Jarrot has an extra problem. Nobody knows who President Giscard may step forward and act in his own name.

During the past few months the President has pronounced decrees direct from the Elysée over several environmental issues. He vetoed the express motorway along the Left Bank of the Seine and the construction of the big international trade centre on the site of Les Halles vegetable market. He forbade the sale of the Cité Fleurie, a private garden area in Montparnasse eyed by property speculators.

Many Parisians who approved these decisions thought they should have been carried out with at least a nod towards the city fathers and preferably through M Jarrot's department. But they who in 1972 declared that it was impossible to achieve effective protection against such polluters by noise as

Laws meant to be obeyed

M Jarrot is responsible for tourism and leisure, youth and sport as well as for the environment. He admitted when he first met the press last June that the quality of life might sound an obscure idea, without any real significance. But he considered himself the Minister for Daily Life, with the mission to fight all the nuisances that affect the health and happiness of the ordinary citizen. Environmental questions interested him most, although they were hardest to show results. "I take years to save a polluted river," he said.

However, he intended to get some quicker results by insisting on respect for laws that existed but were disobeyed. Industries neglected anti-pollution regulations because they were expensive.

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Stridency sharpens the siren's song

Simone de Beauvoir claims that she pioneered the world's Women's Liberation Movement when she published *The Second Sex* 25 years ago. It became a best-seller in France and beyond. But when Mme de Beauvoir began to fight again for women's causes in 1972, she said she did so because for 20 years in France nothing had improved.

She exaggerated. Attention to women's affairs has developed over the past few years. Presidents Pompidou and Giscard d'Estaing both made special efforts to please women—moves not unconnected with the fact that most French women were faithful Gaullists through the General's long reign, and since then have become less docile voters.

They make up 38 per cent of France's working force, yet one woman in two earns less than £25 a week. The 1946 constitution promised them equal pay for equal work and a law of 1972 reiterated this right. But in France, as elsewhere, the law is bypassed in different ways. In any case the education of girls does not give them equal preparation for the labour market.

The income tax and family allowance systems penalize working wives, except the few who earn high salaries; yet the less well-to-do families need extra money. Women got the vote in 1946 but, until President Giscard announced his Cabinet six months ago, only four women had held office of cabinet rank, and only one was a full minister.

Younger French women have begun to protest vigorously against these various disabilities (though the women's branch of the biggest trade union federation, the Confédération Générale du Travail, claims that it has been steadily crusading over the years). By far the greatest controversy, however, has raged over women's growing demand to regulate their own pregnancies.

Until quite recently this subject was never discussed in public. A law of 1920 passed to encourage births in France after the slaughter of the First World War, frowned on all forms of contraception and made abortion a criminal offence unless the mother's life was in danger.

Family planning clinics were legalized in 1967, but because of strong obstruction from doctors, the church and the administration itself, the law was never fully applied.

President Giscard admits that he had this complex of social, sociological, economic and political problems in mind when he appointed



Enjoying the café life at Port Grimaud, near St Tropez.

Mme Simone Weil as Health Minister and even more when he asked Mme Françoise Giroud to become State Secretary for Junior Minister) in charge of women's affairs.

The decree creating Mme Giroud's office defined her job as overseeing the integration of women into contemporary French society. She has no department of her own to speak of and very few staff, except women recruited to the prefectures. France's 21 regions will set as listening posts, reporting to Mme Giroud on problems in their area.

Study of specific questions

She spent the summer studying specific questions so as to make recommendations to other ministers, knowing they would know that each of her proposals was backed by the President. She presented her first action programme on October 2; and though *Le Monde* commented that some of her measures raised a smile, "even her symbolic improvements were justified because they challenged masculine preconceptions, laziness and lack of imagination".

She remarked at her press conference that women's status would not change tomorrow, but that affairs had been given a push and that her recommendations covered a wide field, ranging from public health to work and education, civil law and social

rights. She pointed out that women now live longer, are better educated and have their families earlier.

During their school days girls should be trained for a wider variety of jobs. Why should not women be meteorologists—and find the doors unbarred on sex grounds unless they were qualified? The Ministry of Labour would encourage flexible working hours for women with families, employers must not dismiss pregnant women, or even accept recruits if they were pregnant. Mme Giroud hoped to get longer prep work for more day care centres, which should be seen as a service to the nation, not merely to mothers.

Most difficult were the fates of women of about 45 who were divorced or widowed, with small hopes of good jobs. Proposals would be put to Parliament in the present session, increasing state benefits for such women.

A Bill would be presented to Parliament next spring for reform of the divorce law, she said. If both parties agreed, procedures would be simplified, without the pretence and delays that are features of the present system.

Mme Giroud also intended to declare war on publicity which either misled, such as certain claims for beauty products, or gave a contemptuous or contemptible picture of women.

Many women disliked professional competition, Mme Giroud said, and perhaps this showed wisdom. For

she was best to prefer a calmer life. "L'important, c'est peut-être la rose", she told the press. All she asked was that women who wanted careers should have equal chances for promotion with men.

Among less extreme zealous, stridency has increased in recent years, especially over the issue of contraception and abortion. Women have raised storms of protest against the ignorance in which they have been kept on questions regulating pregnancy.

The campaigners say backstreet abortions total 500,000 a year (seven per cent Pompidou's Justice Minister admitted to 1,000 a day) with only a few women able to escape to Holland or Britain. Abortion had been necessary, the women claim, because contraception has been so rare.

In October 1972 a famous court case led the Government to prepare a Bill easing the 1920 abortion law. But it was fiercely resisted by a movement called "Let Them Live" headed by Dr Jérôme Lejeune, a bitter opponent of any reform.

Television debates, rival manifestos from doctors, and Catholic tracts, together with the mushrooming of openly defiant, low-cost abortion clinics in towns like Grenoble, the Government to present a reform in May last year. By the end of the year it had got no further because of Gaullist resistance.

On June 28 Mme Weil, herself a doctor and the mother of three children, presented a Bill to the National Assembly making the contraceptive pill available on prescription to all women, including those under 18. The National Health Service would pay the charges at an estimated cost of 12 million francs a year. Mme Weil also aimed to end the present ignorance of modern contraception through a network of family planning clinics supported by the Government. To everyone's surprise the Bill passed with only one dissenting voice.

The latest draft Bill is believed to allow termination of the pregnancy, if the woman so requests, before the twelfth week. A commission will inquire into her material difficulties. She will be offered help and asked to reflect for a week, but the final decision will be hers.

Deputies will be free to vote according to their convictions and the present Bill may be made less liberal, or delayed one or more other parliamentary items on their minds. President Giscard and his team may feel that for the time being legalizing the Bill is enough to swallow.

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Women's rights reform...

Let's make an opera—starting right from zero



Englishwoman, a Hungarian by birth and a Swiss, running the Opera. Georg and Joan and I were all too often confronted by sticklers saying 'Méfiez-vous des Étrangers.' But we persevered. I remember that we auditioned 750 singers in order to choose the chorus we now have [probably the best of any European opera house]. Fortunately, we had a success with our opening production, *Le nozze di Figaro*, staged by Giorgio Strehler and conducted by George; its 14 performances played to 103 per cent of capacity." M Liebermann faced two main criticisms in that opening year. The first was an outside one: his rivals complained that he was paying over the odds to attract singers to Paris. He dismisses the objection. "Fees are determined by the demands of six or seven houses, whose intendants meet together roughly twice a year. We share the same problems and we discuss them; we all know what the going rates of Herr X or Madame Y are. Occasionally a singer will hold you to ransom when it is known that you are absolutely stuck for a part—it's happening now as we speak."

comprimario roles. It is a policy which saves quite a lot of money. Money is the chief problem at Paris and at practically every other major opera house: currently it is preventing the reopening of the Opéra-Comique. M Liebermann will probably make use of the second theatre for at least an occasional performance. "Where else does one put on *Les Mamelles de Tirésias*, for example—a condition for producing in Paris when his contract expires next summer. But there is also likely to be more exchange of productions. "We may well be forced into that anyhow. I've discussed it with La Scala, which is an ideal house in practical terms because they have a big stage, as we do, and a similar risk. "Our first thoughts were that we could share costs, although I'm not now convinced, after taking into account transport fees, that there will be any great saving of money. What worries me more is the sheer impossibility of getting on stage the five or six productions any major house should have a season, when the working week for the labour force is getting shorter and shorter. "Exchange seems to be the answer here, of course, we're now looking four or five years ahead. The same could go for the ballet." For the moment M Liebermann is pleased that he has turned the Opéra once more into a normal working house with its own—and surprisingly, for Paris—punctual rhythm. He has some important evenings to look forward to, including an admirably cast *Forza del Destino* early next year produced by John Dexter, whom M Liebermann has championed since his Hamburg days. Georg Solti's *Otello* with Domingo and Margaret Price follows in the spring of 1975; the Ring starts the same year and is to be given in full by the end of 1977.



Port Grimaud, a luxury development between St Tropez and Ste Maxime.

Books discount gamble proves sales success

nick Jossin press per cent discount oo this is at once a challenge is revolutionizing publishing and bookselling in France. The challenge has been thrown down by the Fédération Nationale d'Achat Cadres (national executive purchasing federation), a union of large stores which has been selling photographic equipment, domestic appliances, records, sports equipment, and other goods at a discount for 20 years. Last March, it inaugurated a new line: books, in a department covering more than 1,000 sq metres in its most recently opened store in the rue de Rennes near Saint-Germain-des-Prés. This is the second largest bookshop in France and, in line with policy in other departments, books are being sold at 20 per cent below publishers' recommended prices.

This represents a challenge to the traditional booksellers who are still selling at recommended prices in 25,000 outlets in France, 1,000 of which are bookshops in the strict sense. In principle, retailers are free to sell at lower prices. In the past, large stores have offered books for sale at greatly reduced prices, up to 30 per cent or even 40 per cent off. However, such practices were exceptional, to attract customers for other products. FNAC, on the other hand, is selling all its books without exception at a 20 per cent discount as soon as they are published. On learning of FNAC's bookselling policy, the trade throughout France mobilized. They managed to win the publishers to their cause, but failed to convince the Government of the desirability of introducing a system of price maintenance along the lines of that applied in Britain. The FNAC bookshop opened on March 12. The trade watched and waited. Would it be a success with the public? Would it be a commercial success? The first of these questions has already been answered in the affirmative. Buyers have flocked to rue de Rennes, the sales staff have been run off their feet and stocks have run out on several occasions. Turnover for the year had been forecast at 150,000 francs, but this will be doubled. Whereas FNAC had expected to sell 4,000 books a day, present sales are between 9,000 and 14,000 a day. By the summer, the management were able to make an initial assessment. They were overwhelmed by the scale of their success, although the arrangements to combat shoplifting were not efficient enough, the premises were too small and there were shortcomings in the data-processing system. They closed shop during the August holiday period, reorganized and enlarged the premises. Their success continued when they reopened and there could be better to come. Following the example set by FNAC, several large stores, the Carrefour chain in particular, have launched into discount bookselling. The final verdict, however, depends on the trading results. It is not enough to sell, one must also make profits and it is here that an element of doubt still remains. A 20 per cent discount leaves only a slender margin. The FNAC management are indignant at talk of losses, but they have yet to announce a profit. They say that it is still too early to draw conclusions. Nevertheless, M Max Théret, one of the FNAC founders, is categorical: "There will be a loss in 1974, as expected, but we shall return to profitability in 1975". The booksellers who have always decried the FNAC experiment are still hoping that it will collapse. They are condemning it with all the usual arguments invoked by small traders against large stores while maintaining that they themselves fulfil an irreplaceable function as outlets for the works of new writers and works of research ignored by the large stores. They say that publishers will in time increase their prices, grant bigger discounts and discounts on discounts, which can be as much as 40 per cent of turnover, to large sales outlets.

They believe that all that will be achieved will be the extinction of part of modern literature without any real reduction in book prices. Whether the FNAC experiment succeeds or fails, it will have provided a rude but salutary awakening for a sleepy profession, since the booksellers, having failed in their attempt to muzzle the FNAC ogre, have decided to strengthen their defences. Acting on the advice of marketing consultants, they have just launched a plan to reorganize their profession, to increase profitability, close shops which are too small and adopt new management methods. In this respect, the emergence of FNAC will no doubt have beneficial effects on the trade. It remains to be seen whether or not the experiment will be profitable and, if so, whether it will have the harmful effects claimed by its detractors.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

E UNFERTILE CRESCENT

s between Government... forecasts of its market potential. In short, there is no way in which the Concorde programme can be continued on anything that can even be presented as a "commercial" basis.

way in which Mr Benn and Mr Shore handled the crisis of Court Line. The substantial point, however, is that in practice neither the Whitehall machine, nor the industrialists who must deal with it, are being given the impression of coherence and stability.

Mr Wilson is an astute politician, with a keen feel of political balance. He will do well to heed the evidence that, in this central area of policy, his team is so badly unbalanced that it threatens to undermine much of the rest of his Government's policy.

Visit of the Czech delegation

From Mr Winston S. Churchill, Conservative MP for Streatham. Sir, My Parliamentary colleague Mr W. T. Williams (November 19) in his capacity as Chairman of the British Group of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, seeks to defend his group's decision to invite a so-called "Parliamentary" delegation from Czechoslovakia to visit Britain this week.

From Mr Eric Blott. Sir, Amid the fervour of agitated breast-beating and cymbal clanging on alleged censorship, may I commend your first leader "The closed shop for journalists" (November 18) which was a welcome attempt at analysis of the present situation.

Closed shop for journalists

From Mrs R. C. Shaw. Sir, One person has not, so far, been mentioned in the correspondence about the proposed closed shop for journalists: the chap who buys the paper.

From Mr David Morgan. Sir, The General Secretary of the National Union of Journalists writes (November 16) of his National Executive Council's instruction to members "to impose sanctions in Newspaper Society offices. One of them is to refuse, for the period of the dispute, to handle copy written by non-members of the NUJ."

F, SUGAR AND BRUSSELS

versing his stand against market aids and by agreeing to support prices at home. Mr the Minister of Agriculture has achieved much more success for beef producers.

leagues of the National Farmers' Union, it will also embolden the militants who have been demonstrating at ports. Two principal targets of their campaign, the shortage of fodder and imports of livestock from other Community countries, have not been affected by the meeting in Brussels.

workers that the Community intends to impose beer on Britain, particularly now that beet quotas have expanded so much that most countries have insufficient capacity to meet them.

Kurd refugee camps

Over one third of the women in the camps were pregnant and some five hundred of them expected to be delivered within the next two to three months. Care, both ante and post-natal, leaves much to be desired.

Land nationalization. From Professor R. R. Neill. Sir, The Government's plans for land nationalization, far from involving local authorities in the financial burdens, foreseen by Professor Denman (November 6), would quickly bring them surplus.

From Professor R. R. Neill. Sir, The Government's plans for land nationalization, far from involving local authorities in the financial burdens, foreseen by Professor Denman (November 6), would quickly bring them surplus.

From Lord Platt. Sir, In common with other members of the Houses of Parliament and, no doubt, other persons in public affairs, I receive almost every week a number of invitations to receptions and similar parties organized in support of some worthy cause; often one with which I have no particular connexion.

WARMTH

regard to the meaning of the word underclothes as suggested by Mrs Hawken (November 18) would like to utter a word of warning.

US-Russian deal

From Mr J. Pikelis. Sir, Senator Henry Jackson, a strong contender for the United States presidency, interviewed on British television, claimed notable success by securing a certain concession of the Russians as part of the big American trade deal.

Champion jockey

From Mr John Hair. Sir, Whilst in no way wishing to detract from the splendid achievement of Patrick Eddery in becoming the 1974 Flat Race Champion Jockey, your Northern Racing correspondent's comments, regarding the continued brilliance of Lester Piggott, can be confirmed statistically.

A book about Mao

From Mr Tom Boardman, Jr. Sir, On the assumption that no irony is intended by Mr Levin (column, November 19) I will explain my reasons for publishing a book about Mao Tse-tung.

20 stoats in unison

From Mr Eric Simms. Sir, It is with the greatest interest that I have been following the correspondence in your columns on the behaviour of weasels and stoats. I thought that the following incident might also be of interest.

Compulsory seat belts

From Dr J. V. Grounds-Peace. Sir, I am as staunch a champion of the rights of the individual to preservation of his independence as our increasingly complex society as the next man. But society, too, must have its sponsors.

Honey from road verges

From Mr Bethel Solomons. Sir, The naive letters on the subject of honey, recommending the planting of trees on road verges, useful to bees, and the installation of medieval village beehives, avoid the main causes of the fall in honey production in this country.



THE TIMES BUSINESS NEWS

مكتبة من الأصل

MELLERSH & HARDING
Chartered Surveyors
43 ST. JAMES'S PLACE
LONDON, S.W.1
01-493 6141

Plunge by Swiss franc after return of penalties on foreign deposits

By Evelyn Westlake
A abrupt about-face which has had far-reaching consequences for the reputation of banking, the Government has imposed a retroactive measure which will be widely resented. Money deposited since October 31 will now receive no interest, and, furthermore, will be penalized by a deduction of 3 per cent over the next three months. The measure is widely believed to be a response to the large inflows of Arab oil revenues being moved into Zurich. Swiss banks were over-reacted to turning these deposits into their asset/liability ratio of the Swiss franc plunging to a low of 120.3 against the dollar last month.

Repayment likely soon to Clarkson travellers

By David Leigh
Clarkson customers and other holidaymakers who lost money in the Court Line crash should get their money back before the end of the year, the Association of British Travel Agents announced yesterday following a day-long meeting of the ABTA national council.

Lloyd's alter income rules to meet inflation

By Peter Wainwright
Lloyd's of London has altered its qualifications for membership. From next April, members wanting to underwrite an annual premium income of more than £150,000 will have to put up with higher deposits with Lloyd's while the basic means test for foreign nationals will go up from £100,000 to £235,000.

Threshold agreements push up earnings and hourly rates

By Tim Congdon
Earnings rose by 1.9 per cent in September from an August figure which has itself been revised upwards 0.2 per cent, according to figures released yesterday by the Department of Employment.

Progress of Channel Tunnel bill intensified

By Derek Harris
Legal ramifications of the various Channel Tunnel agreements between the British and French Governments are leading to an intensified effort by the United Kingdom to push through the Channel Tunnel Bill, at present passing through the House of Commons.

WAGE RATES

The following are the index numbers for basic rates of wages for all manual workers in all industries and services and for average earnings of all employees in all industries and services in Great Britain covered by the monthly earnings inquiry, as released by the Department of Employment:

Month	Hourly rates (July 31 1974=100)	Average earnings (Jan 1970=100)	% change over 3 months
1973			
Oct	120.3	158.2	12.8
Nov	121.0	160.3	12.5
Dec	122.0	161.4	12.9
1974			
Jan	123.7	154.1	-8.9†
Feb	124.7	158.8	-8.5†
March	128.4	164.3	6.8†
April	127.8	164.7	30.2†
May	131.9	169.6	35.9†
June	135.7	176.2	32.9†
July	139.5	181.8	48.5†
Aug	145.2	185.5	43.1†
Sept	145.9	189.0†	32.3†
Oct	148.0	NA	NA

† Not seasonally adjusted. ‡ These figures reflect the abnormal reduction in earnings because of the three-day week.

Two of Nation Life committee resign

By John Plender
Last night the tangled affairs of the failed Nation Life Insurance Group took a new turn as two members of the committee of inspection set up by the company went into liquidation announced their resignation.

Land & General to coopt directors

Directors of Land & General, the property group controlled by the National Life Insurance Co, have agreed to coopt three independent directors to the board while the Takeover Panel adjourns its deliberations on the group's case until December 11.

Industry rejects CBI pay guidelines idea

By Malcolm Brown
Industrialists have rejected a suggestion that independent wage guidelines should be drawn up by the Confederation of British Industry as an alternative to the guidelines contained in the social contract.

Scrap deal by BSC confirmed

By Peter Hill
It has been confirmed by the British Steel Corporation that it has entered into a special commercial arrangement with a number of scrap merchants to ensure adequate levels of scrap supplies.

Woolworth profits slip by 41 pc

By Financial Staff
After a 28 per cent setback in pre-tax profits at the interim stage, the third quarter total at F. W. Woolworth slipped by more than 41 per cent to £5.56m, before a 37 per cent recovery in the final quarter.

Hoare & Co, Govett shows £23,000 loss

Hoare & Co, Govett, a leading London stock exchange, yesterday disclosed an after-tax loss of £23,000 for the year to June 7 against a taxed profit of £498,000 in the previous year.

Mr Simon rules out reflationary action despite evidence of sharp decline in output

From Frank Vogel Washington, Nov 20
The Ford Administration firmly refuses to consider reflationary action at this time, Mr William Simon, Treasury Secretary, said today.

BISHOP'S STORES LIMITED

Record profits - further potential

Mr J. H. Bradfield, Chairman, in his Review circulated to shareholders says that all sections of the Group continued to the record profits reported in the accounts for the weeks ended 29th June, 1974.

Summary of Results

	1974 (26 weeks)	1974 (26 weeks)
Sales	£43,476,499	£51,634,778
Profit before Tax	£631,056	£1,033,388
Profit after Tax	£314,983	£430,996
Earnings per Ordinary Share	6.36p	8.30p

FOOD DISTRIBUTORS
WHOLESALE - CASH AND CARRY - CATERING

Slater bid for 'shell' company

Mr Jim Slater moved out to the takeover scene again yesterday with a new deal for Lubok, his gold mining investment company. This time Lubok is bidding for control of Elevators and Engineering, a "cash shell" that no longer has any trading interests.

How the markets moved

The Times index : 68.79 - 0.21
FT index : 175.7 - 1.0

THE POUND

Bank	Bank
Australia S	47.75
Belgium Fr	89.25
Canada S	2.345
Denmark Kr	13.90
Finland Mk	8.85
France Fr	11.10
Germany DM	5.70
Greece Dr	73.50
Hongkong S	11.90
Italy Lt	1630.00
Japan Yr	725.00
Netherlands Gld	6.15
Norway Kr	12.45
Portugal Esc	60.00
S Africa Rd	1.71
Spain Pes	136.50
Sweden Kr	10.15
Switzerland Fr	6.30
US \$	2.32
Yugoslavia Dnr	40.75

Rises

Anglo Amer Ind	25p to 475p
Bk of NSW	15p to 35p
Broken Hill	8p to 46p
Com BR of Aust	15p to 175p
Greenstock	1p to 2p
Trove	2p to 2p
Gold Cross H	3p to 50p

Falls

Bracken Mines	20p to 260p
Bremner	3p to 26p
Barlow Rand	11p to 181p
Clonville	30p to 100p
Genuine Rids	8p to 35p
Hawker Sigs	3p to 155p
Imp Chem Ind	2p to 130p
Keyser Ulmann	5p to 44p
Peko Walsend	5p to 315p
Racal Elect	6p to 110p
Sunley, B.	5p to 68p
Town Hall	1p to 14p
Ultramax	4p to 98p
Westru Mining	7p to 140p
Kinross	50p to 700p
Marshall Cav	1p to 6p
Rio Tinto Zinc	4p to 52p
Swedish K	10p to 14p
Union Corp	15p to 440p
Norway Kr	35p to 510p
Westru Areas	20p to 570p

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GEORGE H. SCHOLES & CO. LTD.

WYLEX WORKS, WYTHENSHAW, MANCHESTER M22 4RA
Manufacturers of Wylex Electrical Products

Increased Sales in Difficult Year

Main points from the circulated Statement of Mr. G. R. C. McDowell for the year ended 30th June 1974:

- * In my Statement last year I referred to many difficulties which were facing us and indeed materialised, culminating in a miners' strike and three day week. Despite all this it gives me considerable satisfaction to report a record profit. A sales increase of 16% has resulted in a profit before taxation of £1,680,533 and this in my judgment is a very creditable performance.
- * The acquisition of premises in Leeston Road now called Blantyre Works, are approaching completion. The new building has been designed as a modern plastics moulding shop allowing us to install all the latest services necessary to create good environmental conditions.
- * I would like to refer to our entry into the Earth Leakage Circuit Breaker Market and to report that I am very satisfied this product range will provide considerable expansion for the Company in the years ahead.
- * It will be appreciated, however, how difficult it is to forecast levels of activity at the present time but the long term future looks bright and I am confident that with the products now in production and those at the design stage we will maintain pride of place in our sector of the industry.

	1974	1973
Profit before taxation	£1,680,533	£1,615,349
Tax	£849,350	£603,795
Profit after taxation	£831,183	£1,011,554
Dividends per share (net)	12.92881p	12.86255p

Price Code amendment on profit rates urged

By Edward Townsend
Immediate action to amend the Price Code was urged yesterday by the Association of Engineering Distributors to prevent the industry from being "strangled... literally to death, by the ravages of inflation".

Mr Anthony Headland, newly elected president, urged an alleviation of the code clause which forces the distributive and retail trades to reduce gross profit rates by 10 per cent.

Addressing the association's annual lunch in London, he said profits should not be regarded as real unless they could contribute to the growth of a company.

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Group of Ten deputies discuss proposal for petrodollar fund

From Richard Wigg
Group of Ten countries of the International Monetary Fund, meeting at deputies' level in Paris, today began discussing the United States proposal for an international oil loan facility of \$25,000m (about £10,730m), designed to help western industrialized countries live with their massive oil balance of payments deficits problem.

Mr Jack Bennett, Under-Secretary for Monetary Affairs, explained the American initiative for recycling the oil dollars first mentioned by Dr Henry Kissinger, the United States Secretary of State, in a speech in Chicago last week.

The Americans were thus developing their second initiative in Paris within a few days designed to mobilize the chief consumer countries to a concerted response to the problem raised by the producers' quintupling of oil prices over the past year.

Group of Ten deputies took over from a review of the American proposal earlier today by the balance of payments committee of the Paris-based Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

The deputies began their discussions this afternoon at the OECD and will conclude the two-day session tomorrow in the IMF's Paris offices. All this is no accident: the United States wants the new loan fund—technically it is still being called only a facility or mechanism—to be operated by the OECD, which groups 24 rich western nations, and not by the 130-member nation IMF, where oil producers head a long list of developing countries.

The Group of Ten also heard today about a separate scheme Mr Emil van Lennep, OECD Secretary-General, has been quietly canvassing among the 24 governments during the past few weeks.

Conciliation service will have to take on more staff

By Clifford Webb
With the additional work expected when the controversial Employment Protection Bill becomes law next summer, the two-month-old Conciliation and Arbitration Service will need to be strengthened, it was revealed yesterday.

The Bill has been criticized by the Confederation of British Industry which claims that none of the 96 clauses is designed to help employers, and that it will make strike action more tempting than negotiations.

Mr John Mortimer, chairman of CAS, told a news conference in Birmingham yesterday that the independently run body would be called upon "in a purely advisory capacity" to assist both sides in disputes on new issues which could arise out of the proposed Bill.

Mr Mortimer was unable to say ahead of actual legislation how many more staff would be required to reinforce the present 400.

Mr D. F. Turner, secretary of the CAS council, said there would be ample time between the publication of the detailed Bill and its becoming law, probably next summer, for the service to adjust its manpower requirements.

Subsidies to state-owned industries were yesterday attacked as a "futile waste of taxpayers' money" by the chairman of one of them, Sir Humphrey Browne, of the British Transport Docks Board.

Closed shops: giving Fred the break he is entitled to

From Mr Paul Nicholson
Listening to the row about the Lever amendments, during the last Parliament, it might have been thought that the issue was Lords v Commons or Labour v Conservatives and Liberals.

It was Fred against a society which moved perilously close to letting him down. One vote in the House of Commons is about as close as you can get.

We are more than a match for Fred. So several politically independent unions, staff and professional associations went to Parliament to get help.

Without the Lever amendments Fred could have been sacked without compensation or right of appeal for not joining the union, or unions, party to a closed shop agreement, even if he belonged to another appropriate but unrecognized union, unless he objected on religious grounds to membership of any union whatsoever.

We pointed out that it is not only religious people who have consciences, and that there may be other reasonable grounds for not wishing to join a particular union. The result was the Lever amendments.

Social policy in this country is moving towards a point where it will be very difficult indeed to dismiss an employee except for not joining a closed shop union, when it will be very easy.

Survey looks at hoteliers' tax burdens

By Patricia Tisdall
British hoteliers are being worse treated in terms of direct taxation and grants than hoteliers in other European countries and in other industries. This is the conclusion drawn in a report on hotels and government policy issued yesterday by the National Economic Development Office.

It found that in the other five countries considered, capital allowances are given on hotel buildings. Only in the United Kingdom and in Denmark are allowances withheld altogether from some sectors of industry.

Other countries reviewed are France, Germany, Spain and Switzerland. The United Kingdom is the only country, it says, where hotel buildings are not depreciable for tax purposes.

A different picture emerged for capital allowances on interior assets. These typically constitute about 30 per cent of investment (excluding land in large hotels). The report found that Britain, with nationwide 100 per cent first-year allowances, is making maximum use of allowances as an investment incentive to an extent unmatched elsewhere.

The study found that with regard to direct taxation and grants, the hotel industry was relatively badly treated until the introduction of the hotel development incentive scheme. With the ending of this scheme, the position has again deteriorated.

The study found that with regard to direct taxation and grants, the hotel industry was relatively badly treated until the introduction of the hotel development incentive scheme.

Russian-West alumina techniques

From Mr D. Joffe
Sir, I fully support the view put forward by Mr Levi in his letter (November 8) that alumina production should be developed to help our balance of trade by reducing imports of bauxite.

However, from my knowledge of the alumina industry an research into methods of alumina extraction from silica I find it hard to believe that the Russians have any technical advantages over the West in this field.

In Russia and Poland the use of the lime sinter process using silicate alumina and calcium silicates for the cement industry I suspect, only "economic" under their political system, only in very exceptional circumstances.

The technical basis of alumina processes has been well established by research in the West and I know of one corporation in the United States which appreciates fully the use of by-products to the cement industry.

They have assessed the production of alumina from silica via the lime sinter process, certainly in North America, and it appears that commercial conditions are not yet favourable such a process using an alternative feed to bauxite.

If a new alumina industry based on indigenous mining such as clays is to be built in the United Kingdom, research into new methods alumina extraction must be initiated.

How the state can set an example in saving energy

From Mr C. D. Cobbett
Sir, I have now been informed by several of the big four that they are unable to loan money, no matter how good security, for the payment income tax.

Meanwhile, as the tax is due for payment it is costing 9 per cent, which cannot be against income for company or profits. It would appear to be part of government policy to be quite mean and tight on the people who like to invest, but not liquid.

Yours faithfully, C. D. COBBETT, Bakery House, 40 High Street, Wimbledon Common, London, SW19. November 13.

under the present system, the firm can make a profit from investment in stocks which is entirely financed by borrowing so long as the value of the goods rises by 33 per cent.

If, by contrast, the investor is self-financed, and the value of the goods rises by 33 per cent, the firm will make a nominal return of 22 per cent net of tax, which is a real return of minus 8 per cent.

Hence no firm which pursues its shareholders' interests should invest in stocks in this sort of situation unless the real return before tax is 27 per cent, or unless it can secure fixed-interest finance. If there were no inflation the difference between the two sorts of finance would be nothing like so great. One cannot dismiss this as a problem of no importance.

Mervett and Sykes's solution to this problem seems to be to allow stock appreciation to be tax-deductible. However, while this restores a reasonable degree of post-tax profitability to self-financed investment in stocks, it makes investment finance by borrowing much too attractive.

Thus, in the above example, but with stock appreciation tax deductible, the value of the goods need only rise by 22 per cent (implying a real return before tax of minus 8 per cent) to make investment in stocks profitable where it is financed

Misunderstanding fundamentals

From Mr M. F. G. Scott
Sir, Neither Godley and Wood nor Merritt and Sykes nor your other correspondents seem to have yet clearly stated the fundamental point at issue in this controversy.

Godley and Wood (November 12) indeed conclude that "the whole issue of what is the proper basis for assessing taxable profits seems to us to be a subjective matter of little importance", because taxes are fully passed on.

If one believes this, one should advocate the removal of taxes on profits altogether, since the revenue could be more cheaply collected in other ways. However, assuming that we are going to have to live with profits taxation for some time, it does matter how that tax is levied.

The present system discriminates in favour of investment in stocks financed by fixed-interest borrowing, and against self-financed investments, to an extent which increases with the rate of inflation. This is true even if interest rates keep pace with inflation, as the following example shows.

Suppose, to follow their example, that inflation is at 30 per cent and the company tax rate is one-third. Suppose also that a firm borrows at 33 per cent (thus giving a real interest rate of 3 per cent—lower rates strengthen the argument). Then,

under the present system, the firm can make a profit from investment in stocks which is entirely financed by borrowing so long as the value of the goods rises by 33 per cent.

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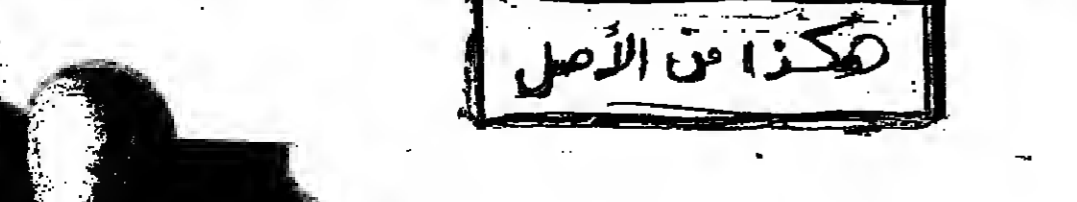
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WOOLWORTH Interim Report Nine months ended 31st October, 1974. Salient figures and comment from the unaudited statement of profit of the Company and its subsidiaries for the nine months ended 31st October, 1974, with comparative figures for 1973/74.

Telephones giant accused of stifling rivals. Continued from page 1 and which alone has annual sales of more than \$7,000m. The Department of Justice also aims to make A. T. and T. give up all or some of its long telecommunication line operations.

Australia facing threat of 'big recession'. Sydney, Nov 20.—Mr J. H. Valder, chairman of Australian Associated Stock Exchanges, said that Australia was in the early stages of what looked like being a very serious recession.

Group in good shape—Profit a new record. RESULTS It has been a year full of problems but the Group is in good shape and profit has reached a new record. Even so, the large sum of almost £4 million of earnings retained and ploughed back into the business is insufficient to finance investment and growth because of inflation.



Telephone giant accused of stifling rivals. The suit does not say how the company's long line operations should be divested and this matter will largely for the court to determine.

McKechnie Brothers Limited. METAL EXTRUSIONS NON-FERROUS INGOTS SULPHATE OF COPPER ELECTROLYTIC COPPER CATHODES AND COPPER POWDER ALUMINIUM PASTE POWDER AND FLAKE-HINGES IN BRASS AND ALUMINIUM - CURTAIN RAIL AND FITTINGS - PLASTIC Mouldings AND EXTRUSIONS - BUILDERS AND DOMESTIC HARDWARE. P.O. BOX 8, ALDRIDGE, WALSALL WS9 8DS.

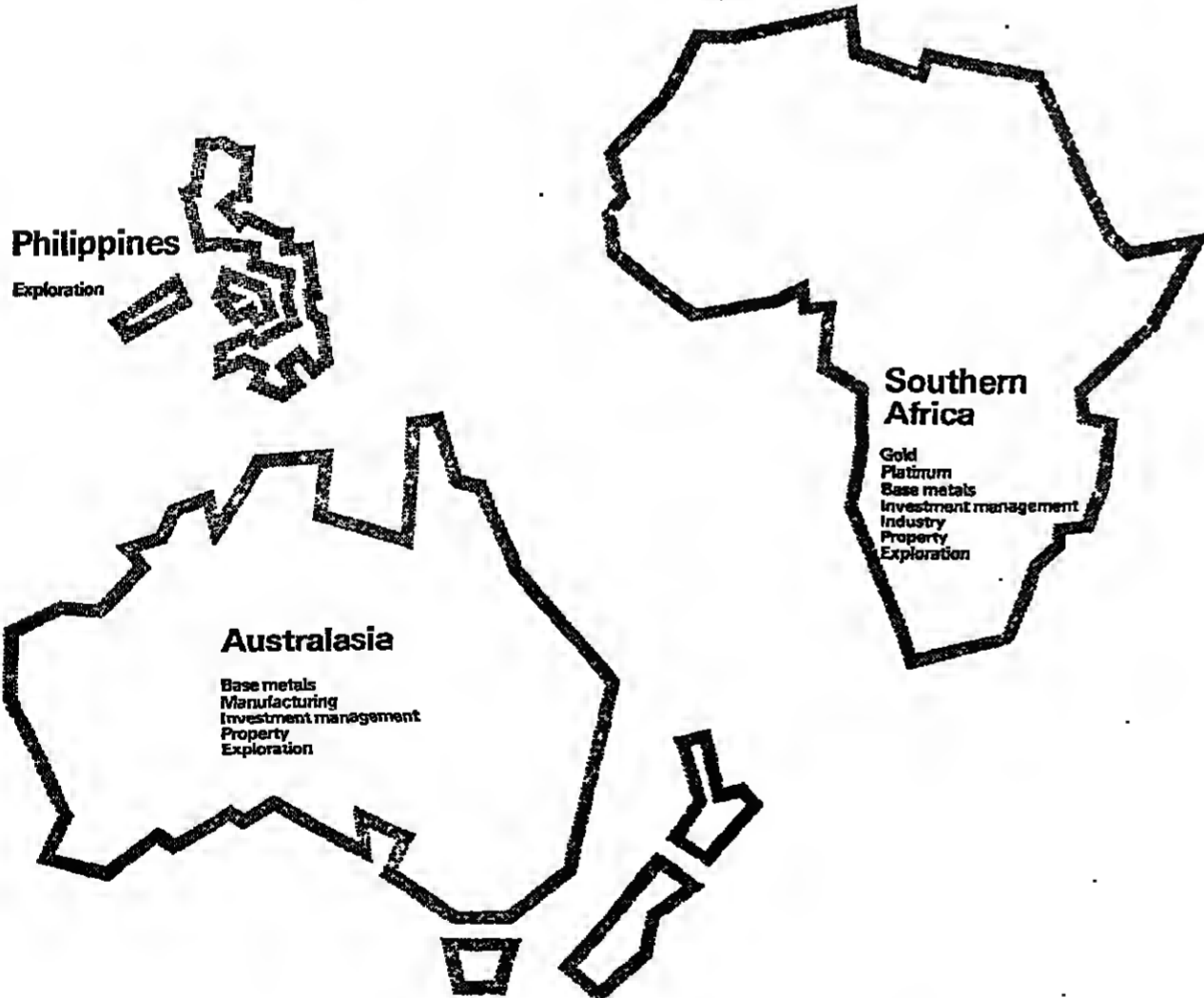
Gold Fields

Extracts from Mr. Donald McCall's Statement for 1974.

- Net income for the Group was 80 per cent higher than in 1973, at £34 million. This was due to improvements in most of the main sources of revenue.
- Operations in the U.S.A. had a year of outstanding achievement.
- Gold remains the traditional refuge in times of uncertainty.
- The Company has launched a £3 million programme for the training and advancement of the African.



The Group is involved in mining, manufacturing, trading and commercial activities in four main areas of the world—and has total assets of £686 million.

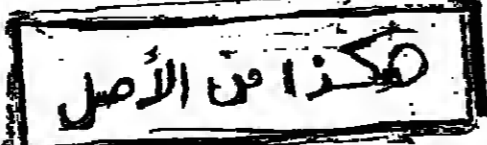


SALIENT FEATURES OF THE ACCOUNTS OF THE GROUP

YEAR ENDED 30th JUNE	1974	1973
Profit before taxation	£'000 66,239	£'000 34,886
Taxation	25,063	13,473
Net profit attributable to the members of the Company	34,479	19,043
Ordinary dividends per Ordinary share	32.07p	18.07p
Ordinary dividends cost to the Company per share—declared	5.94p	5.91p
—gross equivalent including related tax credit	5.54p	5.51p
Shareholders' funds	8,268.6p	7,875p
Issued capital and reserves	153,500	122,800
Capital employed		
Shareholders' funds, outside shareholders' interests, debentures and loans and deferred liabilities	297,200	239,200
Fixed assets	138,900	115,800
Net current assets	55,900	34,500
Total assets	686,000	536,000
Quoted investments (including interests in associated companies)	87,100	75,500
book value	364,600	295,100
Stock Exchange value		

Consolidated Gold Fields Limited

If you would like a copy of the Report and Accounts and the full text of the Chairman's Statement please write to the Company's Registered Office, 49 Moorgate, London, EC2R 6BQ.



FINANCIAL NEWS

Ashbourne consider Court action over Armour Trust purchases

By Margaret Drummond
Ashbourne Investments is contemplating legal action over its purchase of a large stake in Armour Trust from a member of the consortium with which it has been involved in a bitter bid controversy for over a year. A circular to Ashbourne shareholders last night outlining events since early last December—when the bidding consortium first announced its mandatory offer and secured board representation—confirmed that the group purchased 867,000 shares in Armour from Corporate

Guarantee Trust on January 3 at 30p a share. Together with other market purchases some £333,000 was invested in Armour Trust shares between December 6 and June 28, upon which the group are now showing a paper loss of around £267,000. The Stock Exchange has been investigating the matter in view of the significant price movement in the Armour Trust shares over the period. More important, the deal—which was never announced to shareholders—would also appear to

be a Class Four transaction under Stock Exchange listing requirements, since two executive directors of CGT were also on the board of Ashbourne. It is unclear whether the Stock Exchange is contemplating taking action, but the Ashbourne board are currently consulting their legal advisers. Elsewhere in the long circular, Mr. X. Suggitt, Ashbourne chairman, lists sales of property, etc. The accounts for the year to April 30 last are to be circulated within the next few weeks.

No slackening in expenditure at Johnson & Firth

By David Mott
Over the past year, the Johnson & Firth Brown special steels group has increased its capital expenditure from £3.5m to £6.1m bringing the total for the past four years to £20m. Mr. Oliver Jessel, the chairman regards this as money well spent and the board is to continue this high level of expenditure. The lack of investment in the special steels sector over the past decade has made this expenditure necessary to maintain the group's market position.

Chamberlain to even up shortfall by end of year

By David Mott
On the face of it, halved mid-year profits of £295,000 pre-tax seems to represent a severe setback to Chamberlain Group, the London-based hydraulic and structural engineers. But there are exceptional reasons for the drop and Mr. L. Chamberlain, chairman, is confident enough to forecast that the full profit for the year will match 1973's £673,000. As a "prudent" measure the dividend is cut from 0.81p to 0.5p, but this does not mean the final will be lower.

Contrary to the normal pattern, the bulk of profits came in the first half last year—hence the present decline—but this time the normal cycle has been reversed. The problem in 1973 was the closure of Sanders & Forster (Caribbean) and a loss from S. & F. Ltd, part of the structural steel division. But the latter company's fortunes are improving. Turnover in the six months to June 29 was up from £6.19m to £8.7m, but after extraordinary items of £314,000 (£84,000), the attributable was down from £223,000 to £139,000.

LWT's best year with nearly £4m pre-tax

The preceding year marking the end of its teething troubles, London Weekend Television reports its best 12 months ever, with pre-tax profits for the year to July 28 well up from £3.1m to £3.96m on turnover raised from £18.4m to £19.2m. Trading profit rose nearly £2m to £6.77m, before the levy of £2.82m (£2.73m). The "net" increased from £1.89m to £2.06m, out of which the total dividend rises from 21p to 22p. A revaluation of the leasehold interest in South Bank Centre showed a surplus of £2m.

Stock markets Heavy selling of gilt

The recovery in equities was checked yesterday by a fresh setback in the gilt edged market. Gold shares took a further plunge downwards after another bout of selling from United States and continental sources, but rallied in late dealings. Dealers suggested that the period of technical convalescence which followed the immediate post-Budget falls in gilts may now be coming to an end. The main unsettling factors were said to be fears of a higher Minimum Lending Rate on Friday, the latest wage rate and earnings figures and continuing concern over the Government's finances and sterling.

Thos Locker still gaining pace

With overseas companies performing particularly creditably, Thos Locker (Holdings), the Warrington-based screening and filtration engineers, are set fair after a fine opening spell to surpass last year's record £1.06m (up 18 per cent). On sales for the half-year to September 30 some 34 per cent better at £5.06m, pre-tax profit surged 74 per cent to £838,000 pre-tax. The "attributable" moved from £241,000 to £395,000.

Blyth, Greene going strong

Growth continues apace at Blyth, Greene, Jourdain (merchant bankers and general merchants), where the board expects to heat last year's pre-tax profit of £1.27m. Taxable profits for the first half are ahead from £505,000 to £523,000. On net profits of £356,000 (against £310,000), the dividend is increased from 1p to 1.5p, although this does not necessarily imply a higher total. The board is confident for the full year because of the growth of the international division, while the industrial division is poised to reap the benefits of the large capital expenditure programme. Exports continue at unprecedented levels.

Mail-order curbs S & U

Reduction in profitability of the mail-order side has been chiefly responsible for an interim downturn at S & U Stores. With pre-tax profits reversed from £110,000 to £60,000. Cost economies set in train are expected to bring about a speedy improvement on this side. The interim dividend is unchanged, waivers have been made by the directors.

Hay & Robertson

The board of Hay & Robertson intend to start paying arrears of the preference dividend and will probably propose a reorganization of the capital structure of the group. Sales for the year to May 31 increased from £512,000 to £576,000, and profits jumped from £6,000 to £35,000. The current year is proceeding reasonably well, but results for the second half could deteriorate.

A Areson (Holding)

Bringing his statement up to date, Mr. Archy Areson, chairman of A Areson (Holdings), the wooden office furniture specialist, refers to the effects of tax changes proposed in the Budget. If the group deducts the increase in value of stock and work-in-progress when calculating profits liable to Corporation Tax in the accounts, these would show tax reduced from £65,000 to £20,000. In consequence, deferred tax would increase from £341,000 to £386,000, thus giving a net saving of £45,000. Similar relief for 1974 could mean a saving in the Corporation Tax of £328,000 payable after July 1975.

Brunning still hopeful

Though its pre-tax profits for the first half are down from £338,000 to £220,000, Brunning Group, the London-based advertising agency, is standing by the earlier prediction of a good full-time outcome. Turnover increased from £7.87m to £8.24m. The "net" fell from £162,000 to £105,000, while the interim dividend is 1.65p against 1.62p. Mr. Geoffrey Brunning, chairman, explains that besides the adverse economic climate, there were disputes in the printing and publishing industries which affected profitability.

J. Billam

Another record year is in prospect at J. Billam the cutlery. After six months' trading, pre-tax profits have climbed from £76,000 to £141,000, leaving only £30,000 to provide in the second half to beat last year's record profit of £171,000. Earnings a share are 4.52p, against 2.77p, while the dividend is 1.05p, compared with 0.89p.

Porter Chadburn

Reflecting a particular improvement in the plastics and crane and hoist divisions, Porter Chadburn raised profits 44 per cent to £298,000 pre-tax in the half to July 4. The improvement came from a turnover expanded from £3.13m to £3.53m. A dividend of 1.49p (1.5p) is declared.

Leboff buys tiles

"Do-It-Yourself" group S. Leboff (Fobel) is acquiring Grovers (Tile Distributors), of Sutton Coldfield, for a total of some £200,000 in a mix of shares and cash. The consideration is £75,000 Leboff plus £80,000 cash.

Longbourne profit

A loss of £356,000 has been turned into a profit of £203,000 at the Longbourne Holdings tea estates company. After tax, the results show a profit of £151,000, against a loss of £367,000, and the board is raising the dividend from 4p to 5.02p. There is a transfer to reserves of £101,000, compared with a transfer from reserves of £412,500.

Ferguson cautious

The second half of Ferguson Industrial Holdings is usually better than the first, but this time this Cumbria builders' merchant, made public in March last year, considers it will do well just to repeat its interim performance. This produced pre-tax profits up from £461,000 to £486,000 on sales of £7.9m (£7.5m) and on the market the shares were easier. The recent budget allows the group to defer tax of about £120,000 for last term under stock appreciation provisions.

New bidder for Price sets poser for Abitibi

Another bidder emerges. Price Co the Canadian group, yesterday, on the offer by Abitibi, expired the number of shares has not yet been closed. The new offer, from Consolidated-Bathurst subsidiary of Power Corp of Canada, and is \$2 a share higher than Abitibi's at \$4. The offer is for four million shares (equal per cent of the equity) on open expiration date. As the company's 17 per cent in Price, acquired in an exchange deal from the cited Newspapers Group would give CB a stake of 58 per cent of Price. Meanwhile, Abitibi's by studying the offer by Rosier, the president says no decision on possible has been reached. It has been disclosed whether Abitibi has any Price's. The Board of Price was immediately available for comment on the new development. The Abitibi offer: share was for a maximum 4.83 million shares (49p) and would cost Abitibi \$86m (£37.3m). This offer due to expire on Tuesday was extended until yesterday.

Latest dividends

Company	Div	Year ago	Year ago	Year's 1
(and par values)	date	date	total	total
Andersons' Rbt (10p) Int	0.74	0.71	31/12	—
J. Billam (10p) Int	1.65	1.62	7/1	—
Brunning Group (25p) Int	1.69	1.62	7/1	—
Chamberlain Gp (25p) Int	0.5	0.81	—	—
Ferguson Inds (25p) Int	3.12	3.0	3/1	—
Gordon J.S. (25p) Int	0.74	0.71	17/12	—
Harcon Int (10p) Int	0.41	0.4	8/1	—
Thos Locker (5p) Int	0.26	0.2	2/1	—
Mansfield Brew (£1) Int	1.35	0.81	2/1	—
Morland (£1) Int	9.35	7.6	—	14.78
Palabora 3rd Int	30.05	35.05	—	—
P. Panto (10p) Int	1.04	1.0	8/1	—
Plantation Hldgs (10p) Int	1.16	1.0	17/2	—
Porter-Chadburn (20p) Int	1.49	1.5	2/1	—
Rakusa (10p) Int	0.49	—	—	0.49
I.D. & S. Rivlin (10p) Int	1.8	1.67	8/4	—
Shaw & Marvin (10p) Int	0.52	0.5	2/1	—
Stockholders Inv (50p) Fin	5.96	5.0	—	8.19
S. & U. Stores (12p) Int	0.81	0.82	9/4	—
Thames Inv (50p) Fin	1.49	1.37	15/1	3.53*
J. W. Wessall (5p) Int	0.81	0.82	—	—
W. Wessall (25p) Fin	1.04	0.93	—	1.36

* Adjusted for scrip. † Cons. ‡ Including bonus.

Stock markets

The recovery in equities was checked yesterday by a fresh setback in the gilt edged market. Gold shares took a further plunge downwards after another bout of selling from United States and continental sources, but rallied in late dealings. Dealers suggested that the period of technical convalescence which followed the immediate post-Budget falls in gilts may now be coming to an end. The main unsettling factors were said to be fears of a higher Minimum Lending Rate on Friday, the latest wage rate and earnings figures and continuing concern over the Government's finances and sterling. Shorts fell back heavily on substantial selling. Long-shorts dropped by up to 3 points. Similar declines were also recorded in "mediums" and "longs", while undated stocks were mostly 1/2 point down. Dealers said that selling was persistent. The FT index closed 1.0 down at 175.7, and The Times index was 0.21 (10p) at 68.79. Recorded bargains of only 5,745 confirmed the reduction in turnover since the pre-Budget "bed and breakfast" trading was concluded. Amplified turnover figures for the previous session disclosed a money total of £36.8m in equities, compared with daily figures of nearly £70m during the run up to Budget Day. There was active trading on the gold share pitch, with most of the heavier priced shares sharply down from the outset. Lower hullion prices in London provided a further reason for discouragement, but the final rally, in late dealings, displayed the market's relief at the absence of further selling from Wall Street. The strength of the United States dollar has brought switching out of gold and gold shares. Among the day's weaker performers on the gold share pitch, FS Geduld (£231), and I Hldgs (£31) lost 50p and respectively. Pres Brand featured in the list of 10 the producer shares. Profit-taking in United Kingdom brought the price to 440p as speculators' disappointment at the further bid move. United Kingdom were sustained at first to bear closers. But all of them were soon overtaken by crumpling prices in the edged market, together with fears of higher MLR's. Losses in the major were small, however, a general complaint was of buyers rather than of sellers. Selling pressure (130p), Courtauld's (58p), (54p), and Plessey (47p) within a penny of 0 levels. Store shares failed to top a trend. Woolworth a shade better at 33p—porting nine months which brought in speculators but very few or more. Boots (107p) run on small selling. On the shipping pitch was a fall in Reardo Line on the disapproval of speculators sold. On the pitch, a similar fate Henleys, the garage to But another bid situation on a new lease of life in Grovedown Securific and B. Sunley Investme (68p) moved higher after closure from Eagle 5 fresh bid terms would within two months. Equity turnover on 19 was £36.8m (12.9 million). Active stocks were according to Exchange graph were Charter dated, ICI, Lonrho, Uni position, Beecham, National Westminster Unilever and BP.

Briefly

vision International, to buy Thames's overseas program and arrangements with television organizations.

STOCKHOLDERS (NV 151) Last year net revenue (£378,000) with earnings (£5,44p) a share. Total resources at October 31 (£48.8m).

GORDON JOHNSON-STEPE Interim pre-tax (£129,000) after interest (£33,000). Earnings 1.98p a share.

BARTON TRANSPORT Excluding surplus on sales, loss last term up from to £85,000 pre-tax. Wage and rising costs blamed.

HUTCHINSON Nine months profits £ (150,000) pre-tax. Turnover (£4.4m).

RAKUSAN Last term turnover £1.55m and pre-tax £102,000 (£8 Dividend 0.45p (nil)). Comp to acquire 45 per cent of Pasta venture for £85,000.

GEORGE DOLAND Turnover for six months 31, £1.18m (£1.1m). Net profit £57,000 (£48,000). For year expected to exceed for 13 months.

BP CANADA In light of retrospective changes proposed in Can highest, current's profits for months to September 30, w reduced by \$3.9m.



FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Sugar price up £25 to a record £630

Priceless rise in London prices continued yesterday as sugar prices rose to a new peak level...

Commodities

Arabia closed steady, 200-205... CPOA closed very steady, 111-112... Wheat closed steady, 111-112...

feel that sentiment an additional boost... French housewife... confirmed reports also said...

MARK LANE—There was marked improvement in buying interest yesterday... The twelve-month total to end June, 1974, was 179,800 tonnes...

The Times Share Indices

Table with columns: Index, Value, Change, % Change. Includes FTSE 100, FTSE 250, FTSE All-Share.

Money Market Rates

Table with columns: Rate, Value, Change. Includes Bank of England Minimum Lending Rate, Treasury Bills, etc.

Foreign Exchange

The dollar's recovery in Europe gathered pace yesterday, ranging up to 4.5 per cent in terms of a net exchange swing against the Swiss franc...

Discount market

Day-to-day credit was in reasonably free supply yesterday and the Bank of England "mopped up" a small surplus by selling Treasury Bills directly to the discount market...

Spot Position of Sterling

Table with columns: Market, Rate, Change. Includes New York, London, Frankfurt, etc.

Forward Levels

Table with columns: Term, Rate, Change. Includes 1 month, 3 months, 6 months, 12 months.

Eurosyndicat

The Eurosyndicat index of European share prices was put provisionally at 208.74 on November 19, 1974...

Recent Issues

Table with columns: Issue, Amount, Price. Includes various government and corporate issues.

World tin production fell in June

World mine production of tin concentrates in June fell to 14,900 tonnes (revised) in May and 15,300 tonnes in June, 1973...

Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

Large table listing various financial products, their values, and performance metrics.

Mining

Palabora Mining has declared a quarterly dividend of 40c, equaling the payment of 1974, but 5c below the same period last year...

Wall Street

New York, Nov 20.—Wall Street stocks rose again today on the effects of the United States coal strike...

Declining issues broadly outnumbered gains

Declining issues broadly outnumbered gains at 830 to 485. Volume totalled 12.4 billion shares compared with 15,720,000.

Bank Base Rates

Table listing bank base rates for various banks and currencies.

Canadian Prices

Table listing Canadian prices for various commodities and currencies.

New York silver up 10.80-11.50c

New York, Nov 20.—COMEX SILVER closed with gains of 10.80c to 11.50c...

PERIAL COLD STORAGE SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED

PERIAL COLD STORAGE SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED. Used in the Republic of South Africa. R1M DIVIDEND NO. 79...

Financial News and Market Reports

Financial News and Market Reports. Includes sections on sugar prices, commodities, and share indices.

Authorized Unit Trusts

Table listing authorized unit trusts and their details.

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Transfer Secretaries Ltd

Transfer Secretaries Ltd. 100, Strand, London, W.C.2R.

Financial News and Market Reports

Financial News and Market Reports. Includes sections on sugar prices, commodities, and share indices.

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PEL'S
SCOTCH WHISKY
Afore ye go

Stock Exchange Prices

Fresh setback in gits

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began Nov 11. Dealings End Nov 22. \$ Congrats Day, Nov 25. Settlement Day, Dec 3.
\$ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

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Code	Name	Price	Change	Code	Name	Price	Change	Code	Name	Price	Change	Code	Name	Price	Change	Code	Name	Price	Change	Code	Name	Price	Change	Code	Name	Price	Change	Code	Name	Price	Change	Code	Name	Price	Change																																																																				
89A	Trust	10.10	+0.05	89B	Trust	10.10	+0.05	89C	Trust	10.10	+0.05	89D	Trust	10.10	+0.05	89E	Trust	10.10	+0.05	89F	Trust	10.10	+0.05	89G	Trust	10.10	+0.05	89H	Trust	10.10	+0.05	89I	Trust	10.10	+0.05	89J	Trust	10.10	+0.05	89K	Trust	10.10	+0.05	89L	Trust	10.10	+0.05	89M	Trust	10.10	+0.05	89N	Trust	10.10	+0.05	89O	Trust	10.10	+0.05	89P	Trust	10.10	+0.05	89Q	Trust	10.10	+0.05	89R	Trust	10.10	+0.05	89S	Trust	10.10	+0.05	89T	Trust	10.10	+0.05	89U	Trust	10.10	+0.05	89V	Trust	10.10	+0.05	89W	Trust	10.10	+0.05	89X	Trust	10.10	+0.05	89Y	Trust	10.10	+0.05	89Z	Trust	10.10	+0.05

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 on page 25

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University of Manchester
 DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL ENGINEERING

LECTURESHIP IN CIVIL ENGINEERING

Applications are invited for a Lectureship in the Department of Civil Engineering, University of Manchester. The successful candidate will be responsible for the collection and dissemination of information.

Apply in writing to: The Registrar, The University of Manchester, Oxford Road, Manchester, M13 9PL, by not later than 10th December, 1974.

UEA Assistant Librarian/Senior Librarian

Applications are invited from Honours Graduates with a minimum of two years' experience in a similar position. The successful candidate will be responsible for the collection and dissemination of information.

Apply in writing to: The Registrar, The University of East Anglia, Norwich NR4 7TJ, by not later than 10th December, 1974.

UEA CHAIR IN POLITICS

Applications are invited for the post of Professor of Politics, University of East Anglia. The successful candidate will be responsible for the collection and dissemination of information.

Apply in writing to: The Registrar, The University of East Anglia, Norwich NR4 7TJ, by not later than 10th December, 1974.

UEA LETURERS IN POLITICS

Applications are invited for three posts in the Department of Politics, University of East Anglia. The successful candidate will be responsible for the collection and dissemination of information.

Apply in writing to: The Registrar, The University of East Anglia, Norwich NR4 7TJ, by not later than 10th December, 1974.

INSTITUT MAX VON LAUE—FRANCE
 PAUL LANGEVIN GRENOBLE—FRANCE

The Institut Max Von Laue—Paul Langevin operates a high flux reactor providing intense beams of neutrons for studies of condensed matter to the fields of physics, chemistry, biology and materials science. Visitors from universities and research centres in the member countries, France, Germany and the UK, and resident scientists use the high flux beam-reactor and the Institut provides scientific and technical support. Applications are invited for the following post at Grenoble:

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The successful applicant will work in a team and be responsible to the Section Head for the design, acceptance tests and routine operation of special equipment (cryogenics, high pressure, high temperature) used for the control of the environment of specimens studied in the instruments of the high flux reactor.

Applicants should possess a degree or equivalent qualification and have had some years' experience in a research laboratory. In particular they should have a good practical and theoretical knowledge of cryogenics (several years' experience) and a practical knowledge of vacuum technology. A knowledge of neutron physics would be an advantage. A working knowledge of French is desirable, but not immediately essential as tuition will be given. Salary will be according to qualifications, experience and responsibilities.

Removal expenses will also be paid and assistance given in seeking accommodation.

Write for application form to: Mr. D. McConville, Science Research Council, c/o British Rail Engineering Ltd., Swindon Works, Swindon, Wiltshire SN1 5SW, quoting reference and post applied for. Completed application form should be returned by 16 December 1974.

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The Community Health Council is a most important arm of the Health Services, being the communication link between the people and the people and the people and the people. Therefore, he or she will be expected to be particularly active in attending evening and sometimes weekend meetings, so that flexibility of hours and living in or within easy reach of Newham is important.

Salary scale—£2,857 to £3,801 per annum together with "threshold" payments and London Weighting.

Further information, job description and application forms are available from the Acting Secretary, room 119, 55, The Grove, Stratford, E15.

Closing date for applications is Saturday, 7th December, 1974.

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The Department of Geography is ten years old and this year has occupied spacious new accommodation with excellent facilities. The field of one post is Geomorphology; that of the other is less specifically defined, but applicants with a background in Analytical and Quantitative Methods and/or Methodology and Philosophy of Geography will be preferred.

The Department of Geography is ten years old and this year has occupied spacious new accommodation with excellent facilities. The field of one post is Geomorphology; that of the other is less specifically defined, but applicants with a background in Analytical and Quantitative Methods and/or Methodology and Philosophy of Geography will be preferred.

Salary floor: Professor \$21,160; Associate Professor \$16,400. Starting salaries will depend upon qualifications and experience. There are fringe benefits. Removal and travel expenses to a limit of \$2,000 are payable. Further information may be obtained from Professor S. W. Thompson, Department of Geography, Brock University, St. Catharines, Ontario, Canada (Telephone 416-684-7201), to whom applications containing the names of referees should be addressed before 31 December, 1974.

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